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BIRTHS.

On the 7th inst., at Hongkong, the wife of HAROLD BAXTER, of a daughter. [1845]

On the 8th inst., at Hongkong, the wife of Capt. L. A. C. GORDON, R.A., of a daughter. [1854]

At Stolzenfels, th Peak, on Sunday, the 9th August, the wife of P. SACHSE, of a daughter. [1827]

MARRIAGE.

On the 6th inst., at Union Church, by the Rev. G. J. Williams, WILLIAM MALCOLM WATSON, to ROSE, younger daughter of Edward C. CLIFT, Haybridge House, Shropshire, England. [1808]

DEATHS.

At Mountain View, No. 2, the Peak, GERALD FRANCIS CARL BREWITT, aged 9 months and 3 days, the dearly beloved son of PAUL and WINIFRED BREWITT. Deeply regretted. [1828]

(By Telegram) 3rd August, 1896, JOHN W. POWELL, Shanghai, of heat apoplexy. Aged 32. [1739]

Accidentally drowned at Pootoo, on the 26th July, 1896, JOSEPH HAAS, Consul-General of Austria-Hungary. Deeply regretted.

At Shanghai, on the 30th July, 1896, THOMAS HUGH COLGAN, aged 29 years.

On the 6th August, drowned, while out rowing, ADOLF BAUERFEIND, of Hamburg, aged 23 years. Deeply regretted.

ARRIVALS OF MAILS.

The English mail of the 10th July arrived, per P. & O. steamer *Rosetta*, on the 6th August (27 days); and the American mail of the 11th July arrived, per P. M. steamer *City of Peking*, on the 7th August (27 days).

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

The Hongkong Chamber of Commerce has addressed the Cable Companies protesting against the recent increase in rates.

Cholera is reported to be raging at Peking.

The Hwasang massacre memorial at Foochow was unveiled on the 1st August.

It is said that the Yokohama Bicycle Works have received an order from America for 100 bicycles.

The Hongkong Government has issued clean bills of health since the 7th August, the plague being now at an end.

The report of the British Consul at San Francisco notes that in 1895 26,213,095 lbs. of sugar came from China.

The Shanghai Municipal Council held a special meeting on Thursday, 30th July, to consider the Bund Foreshore question.

Another gale visited Hongkong on the 9th August, but fortunately it did not reach typhoon force and little damage was done.

A number of German officers arrived at Shanghai on the 28th July from Nanking to take over the garrison duties at Woosung forts.

It is reported that the Japanese negotiations with France have been completed and that the new treaty is now waiting to be signed.

A proclamation has been issued by the Magistrate of Soochow to suppress the evil reports that have been circulated concerning foreigners at that city.

The proposed reconstruction of the harbours of Kelung and Takow has been decided upon. Professor Burton and Dr. Ishiguro have proceeded to Formosa in connection with the project.

The King and Queen of Siam arrived at Singapore on the 31st July on their return trip from Java and were to remain there a few days before continuing their journey to Bangkok.

A Tokyo press despatch of the 31st July says the Nippon Yusen Kaisha has decided to open the Australian line shortly and in a few days representatives will be dispatched to make the preliminary arrangements.

The report of H. G. Brown & Co. for the year 1895 again shows an unfavourable result, the working account showing a loss of \$14,889 carried to debit of profit and loss account, which latter account now shows a debit balance of \$80,129.

Among the passengers who arrived at Yokohama by the *Empress of China* from Vancouver on the 26th July was Professor William Henry Mahoney Christie, F.R.S., the Astronomer Royal, who has come to Japan for the purpose of observing the eclipse of the sun of 9th August.

The transport *Otaru-maru*, which arrived at Shimonoseki on the 22nd July from Wei-hai-wei, had on board portions of the battleship *Ting-yuen*. The steamer reported that the *Ting-yuen*, *Chih-yuen*, and *Lai-yuen* were being raised by the contractors. It was found too difficult to raise them bodily, and even if that could be done the vessels would be quite beyond possibility of restoration for use. It was therefore resolved to blow them up with dynamite and raise them in pieces.—*Nagasaki Express*.

The *Singapore Free Press* says:—Mr. Thio Tiau-w Siat, the Acting Consul-General for China, whose official name is Mr. Chang Chin Hsun, is leaving for China in a few days. It is reported that he has been recalled to China on business connected with projected railways.

By order of H.E. Chang Chih-tung a preliminary survey is going to be made soon of the road for the railway line from Hankow to Peking. An official of the rank of Chih-sien together with two foreigners have been deputed to make the survey, beginning from the Hanyang district.—*Mercury*.

The Tsungli Yamen have promulgated a verbal edict of the Emperor to the various provincial high authorities, commanding that the study of foreign mathematics and the various branches of polytechnical science shall from henceforth be compulsory in all colleges of the country. Candidates at the literary examinations will now have to qualify in at least one of the latter branches, while mathematics must be one of the standing subjects at these competitions for literary degrees.—*N. C. Daily News*.

The Chihli authorities have sent Tls. 29,000, in sycee, to the new Hupeh mint for the purpose of being coined into dollars and subsidiary coins, as the new machinery for the Peiyang mint has not yet arrived from Europe. Of the above amount Tls. 20,000 worth of new coins will be put into circulation at Tientsin, and Tls. 9,000 will be sent to the Amur province of Heilung-chiang to pay the troops there. The Tartar General of Fengtien (Moukden), we learn, has also ordered a considerable amount of the new money from Wuchang for circulation in his province.—*N. C. Daily News*.

The case of the owners of the steamer *Onwo* against the owners of the steamer *Newchwang*, arising out of the collision in the Huangpu on the 30th of April last, came before Sir Nicholas J. Hannen, in H.B.M.'s Supreme Court at Shanghai, on the 4th August. His Lordship explained that from various causes it had been impossible to obtain two assessors who might not have to leave before the case was finished. It was then agreed to take the evidence of Mr. Cooper, the second officer of the *Onwo*, and to adjourn the case to a date to be fixed some time in October. Mr. W. V. Drummond and Mr. J. C. Hanson appeared for the plaintiffs and Mr. J. J. Francis, Q.C., and Mr. W. A. C. Platt for the defendants.

Mr. John Fowler, formerly U.S. Consul at Ningpo, has, we learn from the *Peking and Tientsin Times*, been appointed Consul at Chefoo, to take effect immediately. Ningpo, by the removal of Mr. Fowler, has now become a Consular agency under the jurisdiction of U.S. Consul-General Jernigan, of Shanghai. Chefoo has, up to the present time, been a Consular agency under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Consul at Tientsin. Consul Read, however, since his incumbency, has frequently called the attention of the authorities at Washington to the importance of Chefoo, not only as a commercial centre, but also as a naval rendezvous for the Great Powers in North China, with the result that it has now been honoured by a Consul from the Great Republic. France has also appointed a Consul at Chefoo vice Mr. J. P. Wake.

LI HUNG-CHANG IN ENGLAND.

After a stay of about three weeks in France His Excellency LI HUNG-CHANG has at length arrived in England. A Reuter's message dated the 2nd inst. says he has arrived in London and that "his reception was of the most simple description." This is as it should be. LI HUNG-CHANG is not a member of the Imperial family of China, but is, after fulfilling a special mission to Russia to be present at the coronation of the CZAR, merely visiting other countries in a semi-official capacity, chiefly, it would seem, however, for his own edification and pleasure. He is armed with no powers to negotiate any treaties or even to enter into contracts for the purchase of ships, guns, or machinery, as the German manufacturers to their great disappointment discovered when they angled for orders. LI is no longer the autocrat he was when, in his yamen at Tientsin, he had a small but trained army at his back; he is now the mere servant, and not the master, of Peking. There was therefore no justification for the almost royal honours which were showered upon him in Germany. The attentions there lavished upon His Excellency seem at last to have become embarrassing even to the self-contained LI, and he was obliged to hint that he would probably be unable to satisfy the expectations formed about him. The French seem to have avoided falling into the same mistake. He was not fêted in France as he was in Germany, though he was cordially enough received by President FAURE. The wily old celestial endeavoured on that occasion to insinuate a little delicate flattery. He is reported to have dwelt on the excellent relations existing between France and China, especially since the intervention of France in the retrocession of the Liaotung peninsula. He went on to express a wish for a still closer friendship with France. This was diplomatic, but it would not pass for much. The action participated in by France at the close of the war between China and Japan was taken to please Russia and not to curry favour with China. The Peking Government are well aware of this fact, and they cherish no delusions in the matter. Even if they did believe the intervention of the three Powers was dictated purely by friendly feeling for the vanquished party, they would not feel bound to make any return for the assistance so timely rendered. The policy of Peking has always been to play off the Western Powers one against another when opportunity offered, and never, under any circumstances, has China shown any political gratitude.

The French were no doubt somewhat disgusted at the sycophantic fuss made with the veteran mandarin in Germany, and resolved to preserve a little self-respect by not following the Teutonic example. Hence we find Reuter silent for about a fortnight concerning the movements of His Excellency LI, until he has now reached England. In London he has been quietly received and will be treated as a State guest. A mansion has been taken by the Government for his residence, and a British Vice-Consul on leave was to be deputed to show His Excellency around during his four weeks' stay in England. No doubt everything will be done to entertain him and make his stay pleasant. He will be invited to Hatfield by the Premier, and will be taken to Portsmouth to see the Fleet. Probably he will also witness a review of the troops, and will be pretty certain to visit the great manufacturing centres of Manchester, Birmingham, Leeds, &c.

But it is evident that no semi-royal honours are to be paid to the so-called "Bismarck of China." It is to be presumed that the British Government will not once forget that LI is a member of the most corrupt and most arrogant Government in the world, a Government that still claims superiority for its puppet monarch over all the crowned heads of Europe. They will therefore be careful to do nothing that may be construed by the Envoy into an admission of this preposterous claim, which should long ago have been finally disposed of by compelling the EMPEROR to receive Western Princes at Peking on terms of equality. The sanctity of the Prohibited City and the seclusion of the sovereign cannot be preserved very long, it is to be hoped, when the scream of the railway whistle reaches that frozy capital, and the stream of travellers invades its evil smelling streets.

CHINESE TARIFF REVISION.

The announcement made by Reuter in his message of the 4th May last, to the effect that LI HUNG-CHANG, after witnessing the Russian Coronation festivities, would visit the Courts of the Treaty Powers partly with a view to "obtaining an increase of five to eight per cent. on the *ad valorem* import duties at the Treaty Ports" was clearly not without foundation, though it was generally believed to be incorrect or premature at the time. For now we have *The Times* unreservedly stating, in a leading article, that the real object of the Chinese Envoy's visit to Great Britain is to obtain the sanction of the British Government to an increase of the Chinese Customs tariff. From the Reuter's telegram conveying this information we gather that China wishes to double the tariff, to raise it, that is to say, from five to ten per cent. *ad valorem*. The steps taken by the Hongkong Chamber of Commerce to bring the matter before the public and to the notice of the Foreign Office in May were therefore very timely. *The Times* says that Russia, France, and Germany have already assented to the increase in the tariff, "but the real decision rests with Great Britain, whose trade with China is eighty per cent. of the whole." This is quite true; without the acquiescence of Great Britain the assent of the other Treaty Powers is useless, and we sincerely trust that the consent of the British Government will not be given without the "adequate *quid pro quo*" of which our great London contemporary speaks. What form that should take may involve some little discussion, possibly some disagreement; but it is most fervently to be hoped that it will not rest merely on promises or treaty pledges. Experience has taught us that the Chinese regard Treaties as instruments especially made to be evaded, no matter by what means.

There is a danger that LI HUNG-CHANG may succeed in his wiles and temporarily obscure the mental vision of our statesmen. We doubt whether the latter have yet plumbed the tireless perseverance of the Chinese in the work of obstruction, have yet quite realised how hopeless a task it is to compel the proper observance of the stipulations of the treaties. They are too apt to be imposed upon by splendid promises, the more so when made by picturesque personages, who are supposed to represent all the progress or culture of China. The astute LI has already been careful to dangle before the eyes of Ministers the prospect of a large expenditure in Europe. The Chinese Government want a new Army and Navy to replace those shattered to

fragments in the war with Japan. LI has hinted pretty plainly that the new ships to be bought are to be obtained from British builders, and he has no doubt won German consent with the promise of orders for guns, rifles, etc. These orders are, however, contingent on a revision of the tariff, and hence the chorus of disappointment in the German Press when His Excellency left that country without placing any definite order for goods. A bird in hand is worth two in the bush, and an order for war materiel, to be carried out on condition that the tariff is raised, is of course a rather doubtful transaction. The chief party to the change may be wholly indisposed to agree to it, or she may require some counter-balancing advantages that China will not consent to, and the matter be accordingly indefinitely deferred. LI HUNG-CHANG has the knack of getting most things he sets his mind on, and he will no doubt work hard to secure the concession he is now said to have been commissioned to seek. He did remarkably well at Shimonoseki in the Treaty as signed; and if he engineered the subsequent Russian intervention to save the Liaotung peninsula to China he surpassed himself. He has to meet greater minds in London, but it is the habit of British Governments to be generous when dealing with Asiatics, and it is somewhat to be feared that Lord SALISBURY may concede this most important matter on certain conditions and guarantees without stipulating at the same time for the settlement of other outstanding questions, which will then be allowed to drag their slow length along into the next century.

What we hope will be done in response to this demand by the Chinese Government is this. To meet the request with an answer in the affirmative, subject, however, to the following or similar stipulations. The tariff to be raised from five to ten per cent. *ad valorem* on condition that the duty paid frees the goods absolutely from all and every further impost whatsoever in the Empire. Further, that a portion of this duty, say 2½ to 3 per cent., be paid by the Imperial Maritime Customs to the Treasurer of the province for which the goods are destined or through which they pass to make up for the inability of the provincial authorities to collect lekin or other dues on foreign imports. Unless some such provision be made, and the provincial mandarins deprived of the excuse for such exactions, the illegal levies would continue to be made, despite the provisions of the Treaties, the edicts of the Emperor, or the protests of the Powers. To provide against attempts to infringe this condition sufficient guarantees should be taken, either in the shape of a condition that if the new arrangement did not work satisfactorily reversion should be had to the Treaty of Tientsin, or some other condition equally stringent. At the same time we trust the British Government will stipulate that this concession can only be carried into effect when other matters now pending are settled. Thus the opening up of the West River and other inland waterways of Kwangtung and of the Siang River to foreign trade and navigation, the rectification of the boundaries of the colony of Hongkong and the retrocession of Chusan to Great Britain in compensation for the wrongful cession by China of one of the Shan States to France, the settlement of the long pending claim for the destruction of the steamer *Kowshing* when under charter to LI HUNG-CHANG, and various other minor claims should be insisted upon at the same time. There is no occasion to confuse issues or questions, but the opportunity to procure

a settlement ought not to be lost, bearing in mind the principle of eternal shuffle which animates the Peking Government. We hope, and we believe we express the opinions of all Englishmen in China, that the British Government will only listen to the tariff proposals of LI HUNG-CHANG on some such terms as those above outlined.

NEW GOVERNMENT OFFICES AND COLONIAL OFFICE OBSTRUCTION.

As will be seen from the despatches laid before the Legislative Council on the 5th August the Secretary of State is in some doubt as to whether he will allow the colony to have new Public Offices, and, in the event of his giving his assent, he has already decided that competitive designs are not to be invited, but that the colony shall be tied down to designs to be supplied by the consulting architects to the Crown Agents. Messrs. ASTON WEBB and INGRESS BELL were the architects of the Birmingham Law Courts, which is a strong recommendation for them, the building in question being a very fine one, and they are further said to be familiar with the requirements of tropical countries, but their association with the Crown Agents will raise serious misgivings on economical grounds. We believe that the requirements of the case would have been better fulfilled and at less cost had local architects familiar with local conditions been invited to send in competitive designs, and no misgiving need have been entertained as to the possibility of finding a competent committee in the colony to pronounce on the relative excellence of the designs. From Messrs. WEBB and BELL, however, the colony will be certain of receiving a pile of buildings that will be an ornament to the place, and that may possibly prove suitable to the climate in the internal arrangements, but the ratepayers will no doubt have to pay heavily for them, especially as the Crown Agents are to be associated in the matter. The Secretary of State's objections to the competitive system are largely discounted, totally destroyed in fact, by the circumstance that the Birmingham Law Courts, to which he refers, are themselves a result of that system. The right hon. gentleman knows all about this, and we are therefore led to the conclusion that he signs his despatches as drafted for him without reading them, which indeed is not surprising, for it would be impossible for any one man to attend to all the details of municipal Government in the Crown colonies and to the large questions of Imperial policy that must engage his attention. As to the necessity for new Public Offices, a point on which the Secretary of State seems to entertain some doubt, the Governor will probably have little difficulty in satisfying the right hon. gentleman. The existing Post Office is wholly inadequate to the requirements of the colony and the lack of suitable accommodation leads to delay in the handling of the mails. Whatever may be said of the general scheme, therefore, there is no doubt a new Post Office will have to be provided. As to the Supreme Court, justice might no doubt continue to be administered in the present building, as it has been for many years past, but the building is a disgrace to the colony, and if the ratepayers wish to supply themselves with a new building more in keeping with the purpose for which it is used we fail to see on what ground the Secretary of State can object. As to the financial part of the question, the Colonial Treasurer will no doubt be able to supply figures showing

that the excess of revenue over expenditure during the next few years will be sufficient to defray the cost of the proposed buildings.

THE HONGKONG COLLEGE OF MEDICINE.

I.

As will be seen from the papers laid on the table of the Legislative Council at its last meeting, the Hon. E. R. BELILIOS has withdrawn his offer of a site and building for the College of Medicine. The reason given is that since he made the offer the situation has wholly changed. The hon. gentleman is at liberty to do what he will with his own and had a perfect right to withdraw his offer at any time before acceptance. Criticism on that point, therefore, must be confined to the remark that though, as Mr. BELILIOS says, circumstances have changed, they have not changed in any way that would have rendered his proposed gift less useful or less acceptable. The Government will now have to undertake the work of establishing a College without the generous assistance which Mr. BELILIOS was prepared to give some time ago, and which it is to be regretted was not promptly accepted. A representative committee appointed by H.E. the Governor has reported on the best organization for a College of Medicine for Hongkong, and as they were not asked to report on the necessity of such a college presumably the Government is satisfied on that point. The existing College of Medicine for Chinese, which has done excellent work, is now on the eve of collapse, and the Government must perforce take up and carry on the work on more permanent and broader lines. As Mr. BELILIOS says in his letter to the Governor, the College was "warmly supported by Dr. Cantlie and carefully administered by Dr. Thomson. The former has left the colony; the latter is relinquishing hospital work; and the other medical practitioners are too much occupied to take any keen interest in the institution." At the time the College was established the weakness of the foundation on which it rested was pointed out in this column, but during the period it has existed it has proved of great value, both directly and as the forerunner of the medical school under Government auspices which, as we hope, is now about to be established.

We do not see how the Government can escape the obligation that rests upon it. As Mr. BELILIOS truly remarks, "It has been shown by the recent outbreaks of bubonic plague in our midst and the insanitary condition of the city, that the work of educating the Chinese in sanitation and a belief in Western medicine is a work that should be undertaken by the Government." It has also been truly said that everything cannot be done by legislation, that something must be left to education. It is our duty, and also our interest, to educate the Chinese in medical and sanitary science, and to that end a college or school of medicine is essential. Granted the necessity of such an institution, the question of organisation then presents itself. It is to be hoped the scheme will not be shipwrecked by launching it on too ambitious lines, of which there appears to be some danger. The committee appointed by the Governor recommend in their report "that the minimum period of study be five years, and that before commencing study all candidates be required to pass an entrance arts examination not lower than

"that of the sixth standard of the new Educational Code (Hongkong, 1893);" and "that qualified students be given the title of 'Licentiate in Medicine and Surgery of the Hongkong College of Medicine,' to be contracted 'L.M.S.H.,' and be registered as 'qualified to practise under this title in the colony.'" Dr. AYRES and Dr. ATKINSON do not agree with the rest of the committee on these points; they say that it is doubtful whether as a rule the facilities afforded in this colony are sufficient to enable students to obtain during a five years' course the standard of efficiency required by the General Council under the Medical Act of 1886; that the title of Licentiate in Medicine and Surgery, Hongkong College of Medicine, would be liable therefore in many cases to convey a false impression, and many of its holders would not be sufficiently qualified to practise medicine and surgery without supervision; and they recommend that two qualifications should be founded, viz., "native apothecaries," and "Licentiates in Medicine and Surgery," the qualifications, or rather conditions, for the latter, being not less than those required by the General Council under the Medical Act; also that the proposed prospectus be referred to the Privy Council in order to ascertain whether they consider it sufficiently comprehensive.

We agree with Dr. AYRES and Dr. ATKINSON that the title of Licentiate in Medicine and Surgery would be misleading unless the holder had attained the standard of efficiency required for a similar degree in England; and, as there is little prospect of that standard being attainable locally, the proposed entrance examination including neither Latin nor Euclid, it would probably be safer if the lower qualification proposed were made the only one conferrable by the College. It may be taken for granted that before the scheme is approved by the Secretary of State it will be referred, as recommended, to the Privy Council, and there can be little doubt that the decision of that body will be adverse to the conferring of high-sounding degrees without commensurate qualifications. What the colony really wants is to replace the native quacks practising in the place by a class of men who shall have had some intelligent training in medical science; but to establish a College of Medicine conferring degrees equivalent to those recognised under the English Medical Act appears to be beyond our resources. It would be advisable, therefore, to confine the scheme to a school attached to the Civil Hospital, conferring degrees corresponding only to the standard of the school. Encouragement might at the same time be afforded to the students by offering scholarships entitling the winners to further continue their studies in England, where they would have the opportunity of taking any degree for which they could qualify.

II.

The following points seem worthy of notice in the report of the Committee on Medical Education in Hongkong. In the title of the College the word "Chinese" has been struck out. The future College would be open to all Hongkong young men and not solely to Chinese. The Portuguese, Eurasian, Indian, and European community could, if they so desired, share in its benefits. A change is also proposed in the localisation of the College. The voluntary organisation heretofore existing as a College has had its head-quarters in the Alice Memorial and Nethersole Hospitals. It is now proposed to place it in the Civil Hospital, where the patients are of every race and creed and class and where students could learn by

seeing European patients willingly carrying out their treatment. This change of localisation does not shut out the Alice Memorial Hospital from being used for educational purposes, but the main teaching centre would be at the Civil Hospital. With the change in localisation there would also be a change of administration. The present College is a voluntary organisation and free entirely from state control. It thus flourishes while willing volunteers choose to work it; it is liable to come to grief when such volunteers are not forthcoming. In the wear and tear of a tropical climate such organisations with difficulty survive. To remedy this weakness, to give the College a definite stability, and to ensure its continuous existence, the Committee recommend its being placed under the Colonial authorities as a Colonial institution. It may thus perhaps lose the enormous driving force of enthusiastic workers, but it will likewise be saved from perishing altogether from want of staff. Its working would become a part and parcel of the duties of the Colonial Medical Department and it would be part of the official duties of the Colonial Surgeon to act as its Principal. Whoever is nominated to fill that post after Dr. AYRES's retirement would thus know that the supervision of the College would be part of his ordinary work. The Committee in thus acting have presumably copied the Indian custom, where all the medical schools are directly under state control and worked by state-paid medical men. One special doctor to teach anatomy and physiology would have to be imported, as this teaching is highly technical, and this official would be the real working head of the school, acting under the general supervision of the Principal, who would be the Colonial Surgeon. Five years is laid down as the period of study. In India only four years is required for the "Assistant Surgeon" class.

It is most difficult to find a title for the graduates of the College. It will not for years be possible to train men here up to the English standard, nor is it needed. The Committee presumably again wish to copy the Indian custom, which is quite different from the highly expensive and technical English routine. The Indian Government is year by year turning out fairly taught men who go through a much less technical curriculum than in England and who eventually get a licence as "assistant surgeons," and these men are replacing the ignorant natives who formerly treated the masses of the people. The wish is to do the same in Hongkong, namely, to have an easier and less technical curriculum and to turn out men year by year fitted for minor appointments and for general medical work, but excluding the more severe operations or technical duties. For the next twenty years Hongkong can hardly aim at more than this, and must import its higher medical men from England. The Indian Government has no dealings whatever with the General Medical Council in England. It licenses its inferior but very useful graduates for work within India only; and the Hongkong graduates would be labelled "Made in Hongkong—For Colonial Use only." No question of English registration should be raised at all. To appeal to the English General Medical Council would merely be to upset the whole scheme under the guise of producing a doctor like an English one. As it is unlikely that any graduate of the College would go to England to seek practice there is no need whatever to ask the General Medical Council to intervene. Besides, even if a graduate did go to England he could not practise there unless the General Medical

Council placed him on the Register, which it certainly would not do for a quarter of a century at least, nor until the Hongkong College has greatly improved its teaching. In a previous article we took exception to the conferring of high sounding titles without commensurate qualifications, but under all the circumstances of the case "Licentiate of the Hongkong Medical College" may perhaps be considered as simple and convenient a title as could be chosen. The title "Assistant Surgeon" would be liable to objection, as it is now borne by many fully qualified English surgeons. It seems a pity to differ as to titles at a time when already in 1896 alone eleven hundred inhabitants of the colony have died of a preventible disease which depends entirely on insanitary conditions. The education of the Chinese in sanitary and medical matters would help to bring about sanitary reforms with the concurrence of the Chinese themselves and so tend to mitigate their opposition and passive resistance. As an important port of call, the Charing Cross of the Eastern Seas, as a fortress, and as a coaling station of the first class, Hongkong should be able to have at all times a clean bill of health. All that tends in that direction helps the colony. No one can deny that sanitary teaching helps in that direction.

THE SHANGHAI BUND FORESHORE.

The arguments adduced by the *N. C. Daily News* with reference to the ownership of the Bund foreshore at Shanghai will perhaps not strike persons at a distance as possessing such force as residents of the Model Settlement may ascribe to them. It seems to us that in relying upon Chinese law and custom as giving the holders of riparian land a right to all accretions our friends in the North are leaning upon a broken reed, and now that the question has, not for the first time, been raised, it would be well to take steps to effect a permanent settlement by diplomatic action at Peking. With the growth of manufacturing industry at Shanghai the water frontage will become more and more valuable and the temptation to the Chinese authorities to lay hands on the Bund foreshore will become proportionately stronger; but the claim that the foreshore should be reserved for public use is just and reasonable and should be placed beyond all doubt, not only in the minds of foreigners but also in the minds of Chinese, by formal and binding agreement with the Chinese Government, for the law of the land leaves the matter, to say the least, in a state of uncertainty. Our Shanghai contemporary claims that Chinese law gives the owner of riparian lands a right to all accretions, but at the same time it admits that the law "is elastic enough to work in all sorts of ways." We would have that elasticity removed so far as regards the Shanghai bund foreshore.

The weakness of the case put forward by our Shanghai contemporary will be seen by carrying it to its logical conclusion. Less than half a century ago the Yellow River changed its bed and has since discharged some two hundred and fifty miles further north than formerly. According to the *Daily News*, the owners of land on the southern bank of the old bed at the time of the change should have entered into possession of all the land between their original holdings and the southern bank of the new bed, the river constituting the northern boundary of their lots; which would be absurd. Nor do we find in our contemporary's article, which we reproduce in another column, mention of any authoritative ruling as to

the Chinese law on the subject. Consular declarations cannot be held to have the force of judicial decisions, and even in one of the declarations quoted there is an admission which seems destructive to the argument. We refer to Consul BRADFORD's statement that at the junk anchorage at Tun-kah-doo taxes are paid by the owners of the front lots upon land for several tens of feet under water. The only conceivable reason why the owners should pay taxes for land under water is that they had taken the precaution to secure ownership of the land in question in order to prevent anyone else coming between them and their water frontage. That has not been done along the bund, and the claim that by a change in the river bed the owner of an acre of land might become entitled to five acres or any other larger area appears to us untenable. It may well be understood that in the case of agricultural land along a river any small accretions that may occur are as a rule cultivated by the owner of the adjoining land without opposition, but that could not be taken as a binding precedent when large questions like that of the Shanghai bund foreshore arise.

English law on the subject is quite clear, and in a case at Shanghai it has been decided that "if a certain piece of land were given in the title deeds as being of so many *mow* between certain limits, of which low water were one, and if low water subsequently receded, it was of no advantage to the renter." This, the *N. C. Daily News* says, is entirely contrary to Chinese law, and "the expression of this unfortunate opinion has done a great deal of harm; for the Chinese and their hungry advisers have triumphantly brought it up against successive Consuls and Councils ever since, quite oblivious of the fact that, though it may be sound English law, it has nothing whatsoever to do with land rented under Chinese title deeds from the Emperor of China." But if the law is "elastic enough to work in all sorts of ways," in other words, if there is no settled law on the subject in China, it is reasonable to suppose that the principles of common sense on which the laws of other countries in relation to the same subject are based would be held to apply also in China. The strongest point made by our contemporary is that in connection with the Land Regulations, Art. VI. of which states that "land heretofore surrendered by the various foreign renters to public use, such as roads and the beach grounds of rivers within the aforesaid limits, shall remain henceforth dedicated to the same uses;" but as the various foreign renters could not surrender more than they themselves possessed even this is not absolutely conclusive, though our contemporary thinks it "is plain enough and allows no room for quibbling. It is the beach of the river that is reserved for public use, and not any other spot—if the river recedes the beach goes with it." At the time the Land Regulations were drawn up probably no one thought that the river would recede or took any account of that contingency; but now that the contingency has arisen a question of ownership of land cannot be decided simply on the assumption of one of the parties. The foreshore, however, is essential to Shanghai and the Chinese authorities cannot be allowed to sell it, but as the existing arrangements leave the question of ownership in some uncertainty, it would be more dignified and straightforward to insist upon a new agreement clearly recognising the accretions present and future as

public property than to try to give a wider reading to existing leases than they will fairly bear.

PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT OF THE CHINESE JUNK TRADE IN FORMOSA.

In another column we publish a letter from a Formosa correspondent showing how it is that junks enjoy a preferential treatment as compared with foreign steamers in the carrying of opium to Formosa. This preference is not formally accorded, but as a matter of fact it exists, because the foreign steamers are not engaged in the smuggling trade, and if they were it would be easy to detect the offence, whereas Chinese junks are more difficult to deal with and are allowed to do pretty much as they like. A few weeks ago we published a Japanese official statement on the subject, which showed that it was intended to exercise a strict control over Chinese junks to prevent smuggling, and that there had been a few cases of confiscation. Everyone will give the Japanese credit for the best intentions in the matter, but it would seem that their organisation is quite inadequate to the task that has to be performed and that the officials are ignorant of the matter they have to deal with. It is important that these defects should be amended with as little loss of time as possible, and it would be well if the Japanese would secure the services of foreigners acquainted with trade conditions in Formosa to assist them in organising an effective preventive service; but that is a remedy that will probably not commend itself to them. If they elect, as they probably will, to rely on their own resources, then it is clear they must largely increase their staff. On this point it is possible the letter of our correspondent may give rise to some misapprehension. He speaks of five foreigners and five Chinese writers having discharged the duties of the Customs house at Anping before the Japanese occupation, whereas now there is a staff of forty and the work is not done so smoothly or expeditiously. The five Europeans and five Chinese writers, however, were concerned only with foreign shipping, whereas the forty Japanese are, we presume, concerned both with foreign and native craft, and for those duties the staff is clearly insufficient. In the official communication above referred to it was stated that the existing Custom houses and stations having been considered insufficient the assistance of the Police and Military Police had been invoked. The police, however, have their own duties to perform and it seems evident that their assistance in Customs duties has not been of much practical value. An entire reorganisation and large extension of the Customs service is called for.

A CHINESE NAVY.

Mr. DEMETRIUS C. BOULGER, in an article on LI HUNG-CHANG in the *Contemporary Review*, deprecates the creation of a Chinese navy. China, he says, "has not given up her dream of maritime power. She has bought one or two fresh ironclads since the war, and is expected to give large orders in English and German shipyards. It may seem presumptuous, but the advice is certainly based on good feeling and close study of her position, to urge her to do nothing of the kind. She is only wasting her resources and providing spoil for her enemies, as no fleet which she can create within the next ten years, the extreme limit within which it will be possible to maintain peace in the Far

East, would have any chance of success against even the weakest of her possible opponents. Moreover, the dangers she has to cope with are on land, and not at sea. Expenditure on torpedoes and other means of coast defence is both prudent and necessary, but to spend millions on battleships and cruisers is only to invite a repetition of the Yalu and Wei-hai-wei." On this point Mr. BOULGER, while he may be a sympathetic adviser, cannot be considered a sound one. No country with a great coast line can be considered as adequately defended unless it is able to operate by sea as well as on land. China requires an army, no doubt, but she requires also a navy, and the one seems as necessary as the other if she is to preserve her place in the Far East. Mr. BOULGER's argument is that China's great danger is from Russia, which, when the Siberian railway is completed, will without difficulty be able to march an army into the dominions of the Son of Heaven, and that that is what has to be guarded against. The danger is a real one, no doubt, but it is not the only one, and even as against Russia sea power might not prove altogether useless, for Russia might strike by sea as well as by land; and if she had France for an ally the latter would operate chiefly through her navy, as she did in the case of the Tonkin reprisals. But whatever may be said of the danger of attack by Russia or any other European power, China herself considers Japan the power to be most closely watched and the one with whom she would chiefly wish to place herself in a position to cope. If she remains without a navy, however, and leaves the sea open to her enemies, China would be in a position of marked inferiority, even though she had an efficient army. It is quite possible that to spend millions on battleships and cruisers would be to invite a repetition of the Yalu and Wei-hai-wei, but so also might the creation of an army be an invitation to a repetition of the disasters she sustained on land in the recent war. China's ability to resist aggression either ashore or afloat is at present small and is likely to remain so, though she purchase many battleships or organise large battalions, her chief weakness lying in the dishonesty that characterises every department of her administration; but if she makes any serious attempt to render herself capable of defence it seems to us that a navy is as important to her as an army.

HONGKONG LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

A meeting of the Hongkong Legislative Council was held on the 5th August in the Council Chamber. Present:—

HIS EXCELLENCY the Governor, Sir WILLIAM ROBINSON, K.C.M.G.

HON. J. H. STEWART LOCKHART, Colonial Secretary.

HON. H. E. POLLOCK, Acting Attorney-General.

HON. A. M. THOMPSON, Acting Colonial Treasurer.

HON. F. A. COOPER, Director of Public Works.

HON. R. MURRAY RUMSEY, Harbour Master.

HON. COMMANDER W. C. H. HASTINGS, Acting Police Magistrate.

HON. C. P. CHATER.

HON. HO KAI.

HON. T. H. WHITEHEAD.

HON. E. R. BELILIOS, C.M.G.

HON. J. J. BELL-IRVING.

MR. F. J. BADELEY, Acting Clerk of Councils.

MINUTES.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

PAPERS.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—I beg to lay upon the table the report of the Committee appointed by his Excellency the Governor to inquire into and report on the best organisation for a College of Medicine for Hongkong. In addition to this correspondence there are two letters, one from his Excellency the Governor to Mr. Belilios, and Mr. Belilios's reply. These letters have not yet been printed, but I now lay them upon the table and when they have been printed they will be circulated amongst hon. members. I also beg to lay upon the table papers on the question of providing new Government offices, and the Assessor's report on the assessment for 1896 and 1897.

FINANCIAL MINUTES.

Financial Minutes Nos. 7, 8, 9, and 10 were referred to the Finance Committee.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

The DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS laid on the table the reports of the proceedings of the Public Works Committee at a meeting held on the 22nd July, and moved its adoption.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded.

Carried.

FINANCE COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY brought up the report of the Finance Committee (No. 3) and moved its adoption.

The ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL seconded.

Carried.

ARMS AND AMMUNITION EXPORT.

HON. T. H. WHITEHEAD gave notice of the following question:—Will the Government inform the Council whether the Police Department continues to furnish the Imperial Chinese Maritime Customs with information concerning permits issued for the export from the colony of arms and ammunition?

THE SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATION BILL.

The ACTING COLONIAL TREASURER moved and the COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded that the Council go into Committee on the Bill entitled an Ordinance to authorise the appropriation of a supplementary sum of \$1,002,275.7 to defray the charges of the year 1895.

On the item, Pensions \$18,776.97, being read,

HON. T. H. WHITEHEAD said—I do not know whether I am in order in now asking if the Government would inform the Council of the loss in exchange, if any, between the rate estimated and that realised, and state separately the amount of the new pensions.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—I do not quite understand the hon. member. Does the hon. member wish particulars to be given in regard to each pension?

HON. T. H. WHITEHEAD—No. But state separately the loss in exchange and the amount of new pensions.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—The information asked for will be furnished.

The other items were gone through without discussion and Council resumed.

The Bill was read a third time and passed.

THE SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS ORDINANCE.

The ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL—I beg, Sir, to move the second reading of the Bill entitled an Ordinance to make better provision for the sale of food and drugs in a pure state. The object of this Bill is to introduce into this colony such of the provisions of the English Acts for the sale of food and drugs, passed at home in the years 1875 and 1879, as are applicable to the local circumstances of this colony. A recent prosecution brought to my notice the fact that the law in this colony with regard to adulteration was in an unsatisfactory state, and that is the reason why I thought it necessary that the provisions of the English Acts should be introduced into this colony. Hon. members will see from the fresh print of the Ordinance, which is dated 24th July, 1896, that there are various respects in which I propose to move amendments to the Ordinance as read the first time. These amendments are scheduled in the memorandum attached to the new Bill, and I think it will be convenient if I explain these amendments when the Bill is in Committee. I beg to move the second reading of the Bill.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded.

Bill read the second time.

Council went into Committee.

Amendments were made in various sections, and sections 25 and 26 of the Bill as read the first time were struck out.

Council resumed.

The ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL—I propose, if hon. members have no objection, to move the suspension of the Standing Orders in order that the third reading may be taken to-day.

Hon. HO KAI said he had some doubt about clause 4, which prohibited the mixing of injurious ingredients with drugs. Would not chemists be liable in mixing drugs prescribed by medical men?

The ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL—With regard to what has just fallen from the hon. member I do not think there is any danger of any chemist being prosecuted under this section. The term "drug" is defined in the Ordinance as including medicine for internal or external use, and if it was made up in accordance with a medical prescription it would be a medicine.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY—I beg to second the suspension of the Standing Orders.

Standing Orders suspended.

Bill read the third time and passed.

FINANCIAL VOTES.

His Excellency then retired and a meeting of the Finance Committee was held, at which four votes were recommended.

On Council resuming, the COLONIAL SECRETARY brought up the report of the Finance Committee and moved its adoption.

The ACTING COLONIAL TREASURER seconded. Carried.

ADJOURNMENT.

His EXCELLENCY—Gentlemen, I am glad to be able this afternoon to adjourn the Council *sine die*. I do not think it will be necessary for us to meet again until the time arrives for the annual estimates to be laid before you, probably the first or second week in November. (Applause.)

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

A meeting of the Finance Committee was held under the Chairmanship of the Colonial Secretary.

MINUTES.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and confirmed.

TYTAM WATER WORKS EXTENSION.

The CHAIRMAN—The first minute is one in which the Governor recommends the Council to vote a sum of \$10,000 to cover the expenditure of the Tytam Water Works extension during the current year.

The ACTING COLONIAL TREASURER seconded. Vote recommended.

SANITARY DEPARTMENT EXPENSES.

The CHAIRMAN—The next minute is one in which the Governor recommends the Council to vote the following sums to meet certain expenses in the Sanitary Department:—For Incidental Expenses, \$1,000; for Scavenging the City and Villages, \$4,200; for the Maintenance of Markets, \$375.

Hon. HO KAI—I should like to know something about the item, incidental expenses.

The CHAIRMAN—That includes chiefly the expenses in connection with the inspection of house drains. A sum of \$2,400 was voted last year and out of that only \$1,860.73 has been spent. It practically means a re-vote. In addition to the amount for the inspection of house drains a sum of \$400 is required for miscellaneous expenses. It is a small sum, but if you wish you can obtain information as to the items at the Sanitary Board office.

The ACTING COLONIAL TREASURER seconded.

Vote recommended.

REFUNDS OF REVENUE.

The CHAIRMAN—The third minute is one in which the Governor recommends the Council to vote a sum of \$5,000 to cover the amount underestimated in respect of refunds of revenue.

Hon. C. P. CHATER—I suppose we shall have to pay the 17½ per cent. on this \$5,000 as well. (Laughter.)

The CHAIRMAN—The refunds must be paid, so we must have the money.

The ACTING COLONIAL TREASURER seconded. Vote recommended.

THE PURCHASE OF CONSERVANCY BUCKETS.

The CHAIRMAN—The last minute is one in which the Governor recommends the Council

to re-vote the sum of \$454.37 for the purchase of conservancy buckets.

The ACTING COLONIAL TREASURER seconded. Vote recommended.

ADJOURNMENT.

The Committee then adjourned.

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

The following Additional Instructions passed under the Royal Sign Manual and Signet making further provision as to the Legislative Council are published in the *Gazette*:—

VICTORIA R.

Additional Instructions to our Governor and Commander-in-Chief in and over Our Colony of Hongkong, and its Dependencies, and to Our Lieutenant Governor or other Officer for the time being administering the Government of Our said Colony and its Dependencies.

Given at Our Court at Saint James's, this Seventh day of July 1896, in the Sixtieth year of Our Reign.

Whereas by certain Letters Patent under the Great Seal of Our United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, bearing date at Westminster the Nineteenth day of January, 1888, constituting the office of Governor and Commander-in-Chief in and over Our Colony of Hongkong, and its Dependencies, We did, amongst other things, declare that the Legislative Council of the Colony should consist of such persons as We should direct by any Instructions under Our Sign Manual and Signet;

And whereas by the Thirteenth Clause of Our Instructions under Our Sign Manual and Signet, bearing date the Nineteenth day of January, 1888, accompanying Our said Letters Patent, We did constitute Our said Legislative Council as therein is set forth; and by the Sixteenth Clause of Our said Instructions We did provide for the precedence of the Members of Our said Legislative Council;

And whereas We are minded to reconstruct Our said Legislative Council:

I.—Now therefore We do, by these Our Additional Instructions under Our Sign Manual and Signet, revoke the aforesaid Thirteenth and Sixteenth Clauses of Our said Instructions of the Nineteenth day of January, 1888, but without prejudice to anything lawfully done thereunder, and instead thereof We do declare Our pleasure as follows:—

II.—The Legislative Council of the Colony shall consist of the Governor, the Lieutenant Governor (if any), the Senior Military Officer, for the time being in command of Our Regular Troops within the Colony, the persons for the time being lawfully discharging the functions of Colonial Secretary, Attorney-General, and Treasurer of the Colony, and such other persons holding offices in the Colony, and not exceeding three in number at any one time, as at the time of the receipt of these Our additional Instructions in the Colony are Official Members of the said Council, or as We may from time to time appoint by any Instructions or Warrants under Our Sign Manual and Signet, and all such persons shall be styled Official Members of the Legislative Council; and further of such persons, not exceeding six in number at any one time, as at the time of the receipt of these Our Additional Instructions in the Colony are Unofficial Members of the said Council, or as the Governor, in pursuance of any Instructions from Us, through one of Our principal Secretaries of State, may from time to time appoint by any Instrument under the Public Seal of the Colony, and all such persons shall be styled Unofficial Members of the Legislative Council.

Every person who at the time of the receipt of these Our Additional Instructions in the Colony is an Unofficial Member of the Legislative Council may retain his seat until the end of six years from the date of his appointment, and every Unofficial Member appointed after the receipt of these Additional Instructions shall vacate his seat at the end of six years from the date of the Instrument by which he is appointed.

III.—The Official Members of the Legislative Council shall take precedence of the Unofficial Members; and among themselves shall take precedence as We may specially assign, and, in default thereof, first the above-mentioned Officers in the Order in which their offices are mentioned (except the Senior Military Officer, if below the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel in Our Army, shall take precedence after the person lawfully discharging the functions of Attorney-General), then other Official Members and all Unofficial Members according to the priority of their respective appointments, or if appointed by the same Instrument according to the order in which they are named therein.

SUPREME COURT.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

5th August.

BEFORE MR. T. SERCOMBE SMITH (ACTING PUISNE JUDGE.)

CHINA EXPORT, IMPORT, AND BANKING COMPANY V. OCEAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

Plaintiffs sought to recover \$800 from the defendants, the amount being the value of a case of cutlery consigned to the plaintiffs by the steamship *Polyphemus* but not delivered.

Mr. Dennys appeared for the plaintiffs and Mr. Master represented the defendants.

Mr. Dennys said the case of cutlery was shipped in Liverpool on board the steamship *Polyphemus* under a bill of lading making it deliverable to the plaintiffs. According to the plaintiffs, the case had not been delivered to them, and therefore they claimed the value of it. On the 20th June the bill of lading, which the plaintiffs still have in their possession, was presented at the office of Messrs Butterfield and Swire and somebody in their employ marked the bill of lading "Deliver on endorsement, P. S." The bill of lading was then taken to Messrs Butterfield and Swire's godown at Wanchai, where the cargo had been landed, and presented to the godown man. The man who took the bill of lading was informed that the case could not be found, and it was suggested that it had been given to somebody else by mistake. On the 27th June, however, a message was sent to the plaintiffs' godown man that the case had been found and the defendant's godown man offered to the plaintiffs' godown man a case, the top of which was off and the tin lining partly cut away. Plaintiffs' godown man refused to take the case as it was not in good order and condition. As far as the law was concerned that was really the whole point in plaintiffs' case. They had not received the case, but counsel thought it was only right to state that the case somehow fell into the water some time afterwards from a cargo boat, and it was then suggested that plaintiffs should sell the case by auction.

Mr. Master wished to know whether plaintiffs' contention was that the case which was offered to their godown man at Wanchai was the particular case mentioned in the bill of lading.

Mr. Dennys replied that a case was offered. His whole point was that plaintiffs had a bill of lading for a case of cutlery and that case had not been delivered, and they sued for the value of the case on the day of its arrival in Hongkong.

Mr. E. Thoenert, who is in the employ of the plaintiff firm, bore out Mr. Dennys's opening statement and added that the case contained 200 dozen table knives and 200 dozen desert knives, and the value of them was \$2 a dozen. When he saw that the case had fallen into the water he wrote to the defendants stating that plaintiffs refused all responsibility as the case had been dropped into the water owing to the carelessness of defendants' coolies. The contents were wet and as they would get worse and worse a Mr. Fullerton, of Messrs Butterfield and Swire, suggested that they should be sold by auction.

In cross-examination witness said the plaintiffs admitted that defendants had offered delivery of the case, but plaintiffs refused to accept solely on the ground that it was damaged by sea water. If it had not been damaged

by sea water plaintiffs would have taken delivery. So far as witness knew, the case was dropped into the water as it was being landed at the Praya wall opposite plaintiffs' godown. The defendants' coolies, and not plaintiffs', dropped the case. If it had been delivered from the boat safely into the godown it would have been accepted. The case was sold for Butterfield and Swire's account for \$352.

The defence was that the plaintiffs' servant engaged the coolies and it was they who dropped the case into the water.

The hearing was adjourned until Friday.

7th August.

Mr. Master addressed the Court for the defence and said that the plaintiffs' case was that they would have accepted delivery of the merchandise if it had not fallen into the water, in spite of the wooden cover and the tin lining being out open. There was a difference in the evidence as to who ordered the removal of the case from the sampan. Four witnesses for the defendants to one for the plaintiffs had said that the plaintiffs' servant had ordered the removal, and therefore their evidence must be taken as being the true version. But even supposing the defendants had ordered the removal from the sampan they were exempted from liability by exceptions in the bill of lading. The defendants were not liable, according to the bill of lading, for error of judgment or negligence of their labourers or any other person either ashore or afloat; their liability ceased on the delivery of the goods on deck.

His Lordship said there were some ordinary exceptions in European bills of lading, but where any exceptions out of the ordinary were introduced and they were not brought to the notice of the shipper by a more prominent mode of printing than the mode in which the usual exceptions were printed, the question arose whether the exceptional exceptions came before the notice of the shippers—whether they were printed in such a manner and in such a position as to attract the attention of the shippers.

Mr. Master said it ought not to be assumed that the exceptions did not hold water because they were not drummed into the heads of the consignees or shippers before the goods were shipped. He submitted that the verdict ought to be for the defendants.

Mr. Denny, in reply, said his whole case was this, that the defendants by their bill of lading admitted that they received the goods in good order and condition, and they had not delivered anything to the plaintiffs. When plaintiffs applied for the case it could not be found and it would be reducing the matter to an absurdity if the shipowners were not liable for goods after they left the deck. It was also ridiculous to suppose that the plaintiffs' godown keeper would, contrary to strict orders, have taken delivery of damaged cargo and engaged coolies to remove it from the sampan.

His Lordship, in giving judgment, said it was important to notice that the plaintiffs claimed damages for non-delivery of merchandise; they did not claim for damages to cargo or any other damages except those arising out of absolute non-delivery of a certain package. There was no doubt that the defendants took the case in a sampan to the Praya in front of plaintiffs' godown, whereupon it was taken out of the sampan. The Court had to decide, as was often the case in that Court, upon the preponderance of evidence on the point as to whether the plaintiffs' servant or the defendants' servant engaged the coolies, and the preponderance of evidence decidedly pointed to the conclusion that plaintiffs' servant engaged the coolies who dropped the case into the water. Therefore the plaintiffs, by their servant, took delivery of the goods from the defendants, by their servant. Judgment must be for the defendants with costs.

11th August.

AH YAU v. R. L. THOMAS.

Ah Yau, 44, Praya Central, brought an action against R. L. Thomas, commission agent, 6, Victoria View, to recover \$363.68 for goods supplied and money paid on behalf of the defendant. Mr. Looker (of Mr. V. H. Deacon's office) appeared for the plaintiff and Mr. Bowley appeared for the defendant.

Mr. Looker said that when particulars of the claim were furnished to the defendant he refused to pay and proceedings were then taken. Defendant then said he wished to pay the money and did not want any unnecessary expense to be incurred. However, on Monday night he (the solicitor) received a letter from Mr. Bowley stating that the plaintiff was an undischarged bankrupt and therefore could not sue. It was a fact that plaintiff was an undischarged bankrupt, but the goods were supplied and the money advanced, not by the plaintiff personally, but by the Fuk Cheong Ah You firm, of which plaintiff was the manager. The defendant had admitted the debt and he now wished to evade payment owing to the plaintiff being an undischarged bankrupt. Counsel therefore had to ask for the writ to be amended by substituting the name of the Fuk Cheong Ah You firm for the name of the plaintiff.

Mr. Bowley objected to the amendment. It made no difference whether the plaintiff was a partner in the firm or not. He was an undischarged bankrupt and was therefore not entitled to make any contracts or recover any debts. If his Lordship amended the writ, then an adjournment would be necessary.

Mr. Looker submitted that the plaintiff, as manager of the firm, was entitled to bring an action on behalf of the firm and it was not necessary to add the official assignee or the official receiver as plaintiff. As a matter of fact, plaintiff was not a partner in the firm, but only a clerk.

Mr. Bowley said it would be practically commencing a new suit if the writ were amended, and he would not be prepared to go on then. Defendant had never admitted the debt.

His Lordship said the amendment suggested would absolutely alter the name of the plaintiff. The amendment could not be made and a non-suit would be entered with costs against the plaintiff.

CLEAN BILLS OF HEALTH.

The following letter from the Colonial Secretary has been forwarded to us by the Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce:—

8th August, 1896.

Sir,—In reply to your letter of the 28th ultimo I am directed to inform you that Clean Bills of Health were issued yesterday and telegrams to that effect have been despatched to the Singapore Government, Her Majesty's Consul at Manila, and the Chairman to the Municipal Council, Shanghai.—I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient servant,

(Signed) J. H. STEWART LOCKHART,
Colonial Secretary.

The Secretary, Chamber of Commerce.

THE RECENT TYPHOON.

MANY LIVES LOST.

The loss of life during the typhoon of Wednesday, 29th July, was unfortunately much greater than was at first thought. It was believed that Mr. Norman Jay was the only person drowned, but on 4th August the Hongkong Police received information which leaves no room for doubt that at least fifty-two lives were lost in addition. About ten o'clock on Wednesday night a junk carrying a crew of twenty capsized off Stonecutters' Island. The occupants cried loudly for assistance and a junk which was close by endeavoured to reach the wreck, but their gallant efforts were not rewarded until four o'clock in the morning, when, during a lull in the storm, the overturned junk was reached. Seven of the crew were rescued without much difficulty and then holes were bored through the side of the junk and six of the occupants were saved by climbing through the holes. It was thought there were more people in the cabins, and on Tuesday 4th August, the junk was brought on to the shore, when three men were found alive in a cabin. The remaining four were drowned. The *Kwong Hoi* passage boat was on her way to Hongkong with twenty-eight passengers and a crew of eight when a squall capsized her near Ling Ting, Capsuimoon. News of the accident reached Hongkong on Thursday 30th July, and the agent sent a launch to render assistance. The junk was found bottom up-

wards, not far away from the scene of the accident. Holes were cut in the side and four men and two women were rescued. The remaining thirty were drowned. A third fatality occurred near Cheung Tsa Wan, north of the Cosmopolitan Dock. A junk proceeded from Hongkong to that place on the 29th and just before reaching her destination she was struck by a heavy wind and capsized. There was a crew of eighteen and they all lost their lives. Some of the bodies have been washed ashore near Capsuimoon Station.

SEVERE GALE AT HONGKONG.

A strong gale prevailed during the greater part of Sunday, 9th August but fortunately it did not reach typhoon force and there is but little damage to be recorded. As usual, telegrams from Manila had warned us of the approach of the storm, the last one, dated Manila, 8th August, 5.25 p.m., reading as follows:—"The centre of the storm is now in the China Sea. It left the island of Luzon near 17 lat. Its direction seems now to be from S.E. $\frac{1}{2}$ E. to N.W. $\frac{1}{2}$ W." At 1.35 p.m. on Saturday the red drum was hoisted, signifying a typhoon to the E. of the colony at a distance of more than three hundred miles. Yesterday morning the black south cone was flying, signifying that the typhoon was within three hundred miles and south of the colony. About a quarter to ten the gun was fired one round, and later in the morning an express was circulated giving the following observations made at 10 a.m. and telegraphed across from the Observatory:—Barometer 29.65, wind direction N.E., force (Beaufort's scale) 4, temperature (dry bulb) 88, wet bulb 77, weather (Beaufort's notation) 6. The following remarks were added:—"Typhoon centre about 250 miles to the south-east of Hongkong apparently moving towards west-north-west. Strong N.E. to S.E. gale expected in Hongkong."

By eleven o'clock the wind and sea had risen considerably. Most of the small craft had sought shelter over night or early in the morning, but there were a few stragglers that had an uncomfortable time of it. One cargo boat drifted up against the Praya wall near New Pedder's Wharf, where she was abandoned by her crew and she gradually broke up. Another one was anchored a little way out, straining heavily on her anchor. A passing steam launch was signalled and bore down to her, but after a very short "talkee-talkee" went off against leaving the distressed craft to her fate. The tale amongst the boat people ashore was that the launch wanted a hundred dollars for towage and that the master of the cargo boat would not give more than fifty. Later in the day the cargo boat drifted up against the Praya wall and sustained a good deal of damage. There were several launches cruising about in the harbour before the storm reached its height, ready to take junks or cargo boats in tow, and as may be gathered from the instance above mentioned, the fees they demanded were not small. All the steamers in harbour got up steam and prepared for bad weather, and the river boats left their wharves and went over behind Stonecutters. The Dock Company's steam tug *Fame* seemed to have rather a heavy job on hand in towing the Government floating crane; at first she was proceeding eastward, apparently intending to make for Kowloon, but as she was able to make but little headway in that direction she changed her course and made for Stonecutters. There was a good deal of interest along the Praya during the day and considerable crowds gathered to watch the waves rolling in and breaking over the sea wall. With the exception of a few smart showers between eleven and twelve in the morning and again after dark there was but little rain, and the sun broke out at frequent intervals, allowing those who had prepared smoked glasses, etc., to catch occasional glimpses of the eclipse, or to imagine they did, but as seen from Hongkong it was a very little bit of the sun that was obscured. The barometer did not fall very greatly during the gale, the lowest reading being about 29.60, at four o'clock in the afternoon, after which it began to rise, but very slowly. But seven o'clock the storm

was practically over, only a few gusts from the south-east occurring after that time.

AT MACAO.

Sunday's gale reached Macao about one o'clock. In the morning the wind showed an inclination to be a little troublesome, but it was not until tiffin time that the residents grew really suspicious of dirty weather, and typhoon shutters were then tightly drawn to and barred. The wind gradually increased in force during the afternoon, the sea dashed about in a furious manner, and boats proceeded to the most favourable places of safety. During the early morning the gale moderated and died away, and, although at times it had blown in very powerful gusts, practically no damage was done. The Praya Grande was cut up somewhat and a lot of paving stones which had become loose were scattered about the roadway, but beyond this no harm was done. The *Heung-an* sheltered behind Molo Chau Island during the night and she left Macao on Monday morning an hour and a half after her usual time, arriving in Hong-kong soon after twelve o'clock.

THE REBELLION IN FORMOSA.

[FROM A CORRESPONDENT.]

TAINANFOO, 3rd August.

It is difficult to give a clear statement of events since the date of our communication of the 14th ult.; but it is certain that the once flourishing towns of Chip-Chip and Hoonim, the camphor centres of South Formosa, are absolutely deserted. This means an exodus of about six thousand people, who, with the fugitives from the neighbouring towns and villages, have fled to the hills for safety. It is estimated that forty thousand Chinese are now encamped in the open. Many of these are well-to-do people, but considerably over half this number are utterly destitute. Foreigners have large interests at both these centres, and without means of communicating with their employes their position is grave in the extreme.

The rebels (?) having retreated to the hills, the Japanese have had an easy task in reoccupying some of the places from which they were driven on the first outbreak of hostilities.

On the 16th ult. a force of 400 Japanese soldiers was sent to attack the stronghold of a brigand chief named Kung-gee. This man had challenged the Japanese to fight, instead of pursuing their course of burning villages and slaughtering innocent people. The peculiar nature of the country rendered operations for the attacking party very difficult, and it is reported that the Japanese had eventually to retreat, with a loss of two hundred men.

It is further stated that the Japanese have made overtures with the object of inducing the fugitives to return to the plains, but that the people, after their bitter experience, have declined to leave their temporary homes in the mountains unless a guarantee of their safety is given by one of the Western Powers. It remains to be seen if the foreign Ministers in Japan cannot seriously take the matter in hand. Without some assurance of this kind it is difficult to see how the island is to be restored to peace.

The city of Tainanfoo has not escaped excitement. On the night of the 16th July it was rumoured that the rebels had assembled in force and would make an attack. Precautions were taken to prevent a sudden rising, and the civil officers were summoned to the Prefectural Office, under a strong guard. A telegram was despatched to Anping, warning the Customs staff, and the Commissioner and his officers took refuge in the Customs godown for the night, duly prepared for an emergency. Fortunately nothing occurred and the scare soon passed off. The foreign residents in Anping were left in blissful ignorance of the situation, but had the attack been made their position would have been anything but an enviable one.

Although matters are far from settled, it is hoped that peace may be soon established, but it will take years to restore confidence. The Japanese have far more in hand than the overthrow of Liu Yung-fu and the suppression of the rebellion in the North last January.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE "DAILY PRESS."]
AMOI, 5th August.

The Government of Taiwan has found it necessary to appoint a Special Court, with a view to examine the cases in connection with the present Rebellion. The Regulations have been published. They provide that the Court shall be instituted with five judges appointed from among those of the Supreme Court and the Court of Appeal and shall be opened at any place where the Governor-General of Taiwan shall find convenient where crimes have been committed with a view (1) to upset the Government, to arbitrarily occupy the land, or to disturb the laws and regulations; (2) to oppose administration; (3) to endanger high officials; or (4) when crimes have been committed calculated to cause diplomatic complications.

The Court has been opened of late at Changwha, where the inquiry is going on in connection with the cases of a number of prisoners concerned in the present rebellion.

On finishing the inquiry at Changwha the Court will be opened in other districts.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE "DAILY PRESS."]
TAIPEH, 18th August.

Communications have been restored. The rebels have retreated to the mountains.

OPIMUM SMUGGLING IN SOUTH FORMOSA.

[FROM A CORRESPONDENT.]

ANPING, 1st August.

Many articles have appeared in print lately concerning the Japanese atrocities in Mid-Formosa. I would like to write a few lines regarding the smuggling of opium into South Formosa. In February last, the Japanese Government informed us quite suddenly that the "Importation of opium into Formosa was prohibited." Since that time considerably more opium has been brought into the island than was ever shipped during the whole of the previous year. Chinese junks arrive daily at almost every port along the coast, chiefly Takow and Lok-kang, and there is little risk of any seizures being made. As a matter of fact, I do not honestly believe that 5 per cent. of all the Japanese know what opium really is, and in many cases they have never seen the drug. A couple of examples may be interesting. A Chinaman went to the Custom House at Takow to clear a chest of Benares, evidently the first of this description. On opening this chest the examiner started back and looked very scared at finding what he thought "explosive shells" instead of opium. He declared that the Chinaman should be reported and dealt with, and it was only when a European intervened and explained matters that the opium dealer was allowed to clear his drug and go away.

Another case, at Tangkang, a large and flourishing place south of Takow, where one day a small native craft arrived with a few balls of opium concealed amongst the cargo. A gendarme examined the boat and found the opium. Being much puzzled as to what it was he asked the captain, who at once replied in writing, "Chinese medicine!" The opium was allowed to pass. In this way, and in many other well devised plans, John Chinaman sees the Japanese at every turn, and usually goes "one better."

After the Japanese arrived, we were officially informed that only the four Treaty Ports, Kelung, Tamsui, Anping, Takow, would be open to foreign and native trade. Between Lok-kang and Anping, Chinese junks come and go as they please, discharging and loading at their leisure. At Anping a farce called "examining" native boats is gone through by the Customs officers, but few cases of smuggling are detected. Tangkang being closed this year, all the sea-going junks from Chin-chew, Amoy, Namoa, &c., have had to put into Takow for their export cargoes of rice for the mainland. At one time over 150 large junks were anchored inside Takow, and I suppose every one brought not less than three chests of opium from China. We can well understand now how it is that in June last, only twelve chests (!) of opium were cleared at the Custom House at Anping, against, say, the lowest estimate of 120 chests per month in the old days. Who is responsible for all this? We understand the

Japanese Customs officials are, but they seem to take little interest in either the smuggling or examination of native junks. When the Chinese Customs were here, five Europeans and five Chinese writers did all the work, but now there are forty Japanese in the office, and even with this huge staff it takes hours to get anything done. They all seem to be busy, but painfully slow and most "impossible" creatures. There may be some wonderful system in vogue, but nobody to work it.

On the 30th July the Director of the Telegraph Department here issued the following circular:—"The Postal business (except money orders and sending baggages) will be accept from 1st August."

Save us from such a catastrophe! Does this really mean that all European mail matter will in future be left to the tender mercies of an inefficient staff of Japanese? We, in Formosa, have had bitter experience of the Japanese postal arrangements, and we sincerely hope that letters will be allowed to come to us, as usual, through the British Consulate.

THE WRECK OF THE "ILTIS."

Chefoo, 29th July.

Yesterday morning the arrival of a courier from the S.E. Promontory lighthouse, with the news of the wreck of the German gunboat *Ilitis* on the night of Thursday last, startled the whole community, and filled us all alike with sorrow. The gunboat left here on the morning of the day in the evening of which the typhoon reached us; she was bound for Weihaiwei, and speculation is rife as to how she happened to be off the S.E. Promontory. As yet, few details are known; the ship is known to have struck a small island some nine miles N.E. of the Promontory; she broke in half, and only the fore portion remained above water; from it, two days later, eleven men were taken off by a sampan and conducted to the lighthouse; all the others perished, including all the officers. The typhoon, the first recorded one in Chefoo, did a good deal of damage, uprooting trees, unroofing houses, etc., and many of our badly built walls collapsed; owing to the floods of rain, which accompanied the storm.—N. C. Daily News correspondent.

MEMORIAL SERVICE AT HONGKONG.

On Sunday morning a service in memoriam of the late captain, officers, and crew of the German gunboat *Ilitis* was held in the German chapel. Unfortunately, owing to the gale, many German residents at the Peak were unable to attend. Several ladies went as far as the tram station, but turned back on learning that the typhoon gun had been fired at a quarter to ten. Notwithstanding the unfavourable weather, however, the chapel was crowded, the congregation including a few ladies, amongst whom were the ladies of the Berlin Foundling House and the Misses Eitel. The German Consul, in the uniform of a captain of the Army, received at the door of the chapel those who attended the service. H.E. the Governor was represented by Captain Sterling, A.D.C., H.E. Major-General Black by Captain Loveband, A.D.C., and Commodore Boyes by his Secretary, Mr. F. R. Waymouth, R.N. The heads of most of the leading German firms were present, including Mr. Siebs, Mr. Stollerfoht, Mr. Garrels, Mr. Wieler, and Mr. Georg. Dr. Eitel and Dr. Wilm, the latter in the uniform of a naval doctor, were also present. The Rev. Riecke conducted the service and preached a very touching and impressive sermon.

RELIEF FUND.

We understand that a fund for the relief of the sufferers by the foundering of H.F.G.M.S. *Ilitis* has been started by an influential committee, of which Mr. N. A. Siebs is Chairman, and that subscription lists are lying at the German Club. Messrs. F. Blackhead & Co., Chas. J. Gaupp & Co., Kruse & Co., and Heuermann, Herbst & Co. Mr. M. Grote is acting as Secretary and Treasurer to the Fund and will gladly receive any subscriptions.

We are glad to learn that, so far as is known, no foreigner is responsible for the suggestion that the Bund foreshore should be sold.—N. C. Daily News.

THE HWASANG MASSACRE MEMORIAL.

[FROM A CORRESPONDENT.]

Foochow, 1st August.

It will doubtless be within the recollection of most of your readers that shortly after the deplorable massacre at Hwasang, which startled and shocked the whole Christian world last summer, a movement was set on foot to erect a monument over the graves of the victims in the Foochow cemetery. Accordingly an appeal was made to the various Foreign Communities in China and small subscriptions invited. The appeal was liberally responded to and a chaste and beautiful design selected out of a number sent from Singapore. It consists of an angel, carved in fine Carrara marble, with semi-folded wings and holding a fleur-de-lis, looking with reverent sympathy upon the graves. On the pedestal beneath are inscribed the names of those who were so ruthlessly murdered, while a small flat head-stone is placed on each grave, a dwarf iron railing surrounding the whole.

Although the memorial has been finished for some time, it was thought advisable to defer its erection until the anniversary of the sad event, August 1st, and on that day at 6 p.m. it was unveiled by the British Consul at Foochow in the presence of a number of the missionary and mercantile community, when a short service was held and an address given by the Archdeacon. The design apparently gave much satisfaction to all who were present.

THE WATER SUPPLY.

We are just now fairly well off for water. Pokfulam reservoir is full and Tytam reservoir contains 280,000,000 gallons, or about 80,000,000 gallons under its holding capacity, and the streams are still running freely. This year we have been much more liberally favoured with rain than we were last year, the total fall to the end of last month being 45.43 inches as compared with 34.73 inches to the corresponding time last year and 45.84 for the whole of the year. During the past two months the storage has increased enormously, as on the 1st June Tytam contained only 26,000,000 gallons, or a little over a twelfth of the present supply, while Pokfulam has also gained very considerably. The daily consumption is 3,000,000 gallons, two-thirds of which is being drawn from Pokfulam and the remainder from Tytam and the streams. It is expected, as August usually brings a lot of rain, that Tytam reservoir will be filled at the end of this season for the first time since the extension.

THE NEW GOVERNMENT OFFICES.

The following papers were laid before the Legislative Council the 5th August:—

THE GOVERNOR TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.
Government House,
Hongkong, 28th April, 1896.

Sir,—With reference to paragraph 13 of my despatch No. 201 of the 4th September, 1894, I have the honour to inform you that in that month I appointed a Committee, consisting of two Officials (the Director of Public Works and Treasurer), and three Unofficial Members (Mr. Chater, Mr. Jackson, and Mr. McConachie), to consider and report on the question of providing new Government Offices and the advisability of concentrating them under one roof. The Committee has advised that two blocks of buildings should be erected on the Praya Reclamation comprising new offices for Treasury, Public Works, Post Office, and Registrar-General's departments, and the Supreme Court and the offices connected with it, but that the Colonial Secretary's Office should be allowed to remain as at present.

2.—A majority of the Committee being in favour of inviting competitive designs for the proposed new offices, I directed the Director of Public Works to draw up particulars and conditions of competition, of which, as amended and finally approved by the Committee, I enclose copies for your consideration.

3.—The Committee also considered at my request the financial aspect of the proposal, and expressed its opinion that, in view of the Acting Colonial Treasurer's confident anticipation that the ordinary expenditure of the current year

will be largely exceeded by the revenue, and that the surplus of revenue over expenditure is likely to be continued in future years, there is no necessity, at least for the present, to make any special arrangements for providing the funds required to meet the estimated cost of the works, viz., \$700,000. The value of the present buildings, which it is proposed to replace with the land on which they stand, is estimated at \$250,000; the total net cost to the Government of the new buildings would therefore be about \$450,000, and as the expenditure of this sum would be spread over five years, the time within which it is calculated that the work could be completed, I see no reason to doubt that the ordinary revenue of the colony would be able to bear the burden.

4.—If the scheme meets with your approval, which, as the work is of pressing necessity, I earnestly hope will not be withheld, I propose to publish the conditions of competition in Shanghai and Singapore as well as locally, in order that the architects resident in those places may compete if they desire to do so.

5.—I shall be glad if you will convey to me your decision in this matter at an early date, and if convenient by telegraph.—I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

WILLIAM ROBINSON.

The Right Honourable Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, M.P., Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, &c., &c., Downing Street, London.

THE SECRETARY OF STATE TO THE GOVERNOR.
Downing Street,
5th June, 1896.

Sir,—With reference to your despatch No. 111 of 28th April last and to my telegram of the 3rd instant, I have the honour to inform you that before sanctioning the proposed erection of new Government buildings at Hongkong, I desire to receive further information as to the necessity for the buildings, and to be more fully satisfied than I now am as to the financial ability of the colony to meet the expenditure out of current revenue.

2.—I request you therefore to forward to me the report of the Committee which considered the question of the Government Offices, together with any further explanations you may wish to give.

3.—As regards the financial position of the colony, I should be glad to know the precise grounds upon which the Acting Colonial Treasurer confidently anticipates that the ordinary expenditure of the current year will be largely exceeded by the revenue, in view of the fact that the Estimates sent home in December last only show a surplus of \$9,500. It appears, moreover, from the returns forwarded in your despatch No. 92 of 14th April last, that the revenue last year fell considerably short of the expenditure (excluding expenditure charged to the loan), and that at the end of the year there was an actual excess of liabilities over assets, which was only met by temporarily appropriating for general purposes the balance of the 1893 loan. I gather, however, that this state of affairs was largely due to the special expenditure on the Taipingshan Resumption Scheme, which will in part at least be ultimately recouped.

4.—I should in any case not be disposed to sanction a loan for such a purpose as the erection of Government buildings, which are neither directly remunerative nor, like sanitary and water works, of pressing necessity for the health of the colony.

5.—I notice from the last paragraph of the second enclosure to your despatch No. 92 of 14th April last, that the Public Works, for which the present loan was raised, are likely to absorb much more than the total sum realised by the loan. It is therefore desirable to know how this excess expenditure is to be met, when considering the question of incurring other heavy expenditure on Public buildings.

6.—I will address you later on in a separate despatch as to the desirability of inviting competitive designs for the new Government Offices in the event of its being decided to erect them.—I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

J. CHAMBERLAIN.

Governor Sir W. Robinson, K.C.M.G.,
&c., &c., &c.

THE SECRETARY OF STATE TO THE GOVERNOR.
Downing Street,
16th June, 1896.

Sir,—With reference to the last paragraph of my despatch No. 126 of the 5th inst. I have the honour to inform you that I am not prepared to approve the proposal to invite competitive designs for new Government Offices at Hongkong.

2.—The system has not been found to work very well in this country, partly owing to the difficulty of finding competent judges to decide on the merits of the competing designs, and partly because the selected design may turn out to be the work of an architect or firm, of very limited experience in the supervision of actual construction, and in dealing with the numberless questions which arise in connection with a large building.

3.—When it is decided to erect the new Government buildings, it will, in my opinion, be desirable to employ the consulting architects to the Crown Agents for the Colonies, Messrs. Aston Webb and Ingress Bell, who designed the Birmingham Law Courts and other notable buildings, and who have considerable experience in making designs for buildings in the tropics.—I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

J. CHAMBERLAIN.

Governor Sir W. Robinson, K.C.M.G.,
&c., &c., &c.

THE COLLEGE OF MEDICINE.

The following report of the Committee appointed by the Governor to enquire into and report on the best organization for a College of Medicine for Hongkong and correspondence relating thereto was laid before the Legislative Council on the 5th August:—

Hongkong, 15th July, 1896.

The Committee appointed by His Excellency the Governor to enquire into and report on the best organization for a College of Medicine for Hongkong have the honour to submit for His Excellency's consideration the results of their deliberations. They respectfully offer the following recommendations:—

1.—That the title of the proposed College be "The Hongkong College of Medicine."

2.—That a Governing Body be appointed, consisting of seven members—The Colonial Surgeon, the Principal Medical Officer of Her Majesty's Forces, the Deputy Inspector-General of Royal Naval Hospital, the Superintendent of the Alice Memorial and Nethersole Hospitals, and three others nominated by His Excellency the Governor; and that the Colonial Surgeon be President of the Governing body.

3.—That the Colonial Surgeon be *ex officio* Principal of the College.

4.—That the Government secure the services of a medical man specially qualified to teach Anatomy and Physiology, who shall be a member of the Medical Department of the colony, be Lecturer on the subjects named, and act as Superintendent and Secretary of the College.

5.—That the Lecturers on other subjects be appointed by His Excellency the Governor on the recommendation of the Governing Body, and that they each receive an honorarium for their services. The sum of one hundred dollars per annum is suggested as a suitable honorarium.

6.—That the minimum period of study be five years; and that before commencing study all candidates be required to pass an entrance Arts examination, not lower than that of the new Educational Code (Hongkong, 1893).

7.—That all professional examinations be conducted by independent examiners appointed by the Governing Body, assisted by the lecturers on the subjects under examination.

8.—That qualified students be given the title of "Licentiate in Medicine and Surgery of the Hongkong College of Medicine," to be contracted "L.M.S.H.," and be registered as qualified to practise under this title in the colony.

9.—That qualified students of the existing College of Medicine for Chinese be permitted to register, if they desire it, under the new Ordinance; and that present students of that College be received into the proposed College without preliminary examination, and given credit for such time as they may already have devoted to medical study.

10.—That regulations for matriculation, curriculum of study, professional examinations, sessions, fees, &c., be remitted to the Governing Body, when it has been formed.

11.—That the Government Civil Hospital, Lunatic Asylum, Fever Hospitals, &c., be thrown open to the College for purposes of clinical instruction; and that the Authorities of the Military and Naval Hospitals, and of the Alice Memorial and Nethersole Hospitals, be requested to similarly place these institutions at the disposal of the College.

The Committee, having examined the plans for a College building prepared by Honourable E. R. Belilios, C.M.G., in connection with his generous offer to the present College of Medicine for Chinese, consider that such a building would be admirably adapted to the requirements of the proposed College, and that no better site could be obtained than that which he has offered, on account of its proximity to the Government Civil Hospital.

Finally, the Committee have estimated that an annual grant of \$5,600 would be required to meet the expenses of the proposed College, as follows:—

\$3,600, as salary of Superintendent, who would probably be provided with quarters in the College building.

\$1,000, to provide honoraria for ten lecturers at the rate suggested.

\$1,000, to cover laboratory expenses, the wages of coolies, and other incidental outlay.

* PH. B. C. AYRES,

Colonial Surgeon, Chairman.

GEORGE J. H. EVATT, M.D.

Surgeon-Colonel A.M.S.,

P.M.O., H.M. Troops, China.

HO KAI.

* J. M. ATKINSON,

JOHN C. THOMSON.

* With reservations attached.

RESERVATIONS BY DR. AYRES AND DR. ATKINSON.

Having signed the report of the Committee appointed by His Excellency the Governor to inquire into and report on the best organisation for a College of Medicine for Hongkong, dated July 15th, with reservations, we have to point out that we differ from the opinions set forth in paragraphs 7, 8, and 9.

We are of opinion that if "The Hongkong College of Medicine" is to be founded the conditions as to entrance, examinations, and course of study should be as far as practicable in accord with the conditions obtaining in England, otherwise the proposed Licentiatehip will give a false impression of the qualifications of its holders and the credit of the College will, in the course of a few years, suffer in consequence.

It must also be borne in mind that if the College is successful after the first five years it is most probable that many of the men leaving annually will have to seek employment elsewhere than in this colony; it is therefore equally to the advantage of the individual that the highest standard of efficiency should be adopted.

The sixth standard of the new Education Code (Hongkong 1893) does not include in its subjects either Latin or Euclid, and is therefore below the minimum standard required by the General Council under the Medical Act of 1886.

The proposal to allow lecturers on the subjects under examination to assist in such examination is a course not likely to commend itself generally.

It is doubtful whether as a rule the facilities afforded in this colony with the addition of a lecturer in Anatomy and Physiology are sufficient to enable students to obtain during a five years' course the standard of efficiency required by the General Council under the Medical Act of 1886.

It must be borne in mind that one of the chief tendencies of Chinese partially trained in Western medicine is the wholesale use of narcotics.

The title of Licentiate in Medicine and Surgery, Hongkong College of Medicine, will be liable, therefore in many cases to convey a false impression, and many of its holders will not be sufficiently qualified to practise medicine and surgery without supervision.

It appears desirable that two qualifications should be founded, viz., "native apothecaries," and "Licentiates in Medicine and Surgery." The qualifications, or rather conditions for the latter, being not less than those required by the General Council under the Medical Act, and that the proposed prospectus be referred to the Privy Council in order to ascertain whether they consider it sufficiently comprehensive.

Dr. Thomson admits that the present course of study and examination at the College of Medicine for Chinese is not equal to the standard required by the general Medical Act of 1886, nor have all the students been required to pass any examination in Arts previous to their admittance to the College, and we would here remark that the College, as at present constituted, does not appear to us a "College" within the meaning of section 13 of Ordinance 6 of 1884.

Qualified students of the existing College should therefore be required to pass the usual examinations before being allowed to register the qualification, and the present students desirous of continuing their studies in the new College should be required to pass the necessary entrance examination.

PH. B. C. AYRES,

Colonial Surgeon.

J. M. ATKINSON,

Superintendent,

Government Civil Hospital.

Hongkong, 20th July, 1896.

THE GOVERNOR TO HON. E. R. BELILIOS. Government House,

Hongkong, 31st July, 1896.

Sir,—I have the honour to forward herewith for your information a copy of a report of the Committee appointed to inquire into and report on the question of a College of Medicine for Hongkong and to inquire whether you are prepared to extend your generous offer to give a site and to erect a building thereon to be used as a College to an institution placed under Government control, as recommended by the Committee, or whether you have any modifications to suggest.

2.—The recommendations of the Committee will, I feel sure, commend themselves to you, as they are calculated to secure that permanence and continuity which are of primary importance to an Institution such as it is intended the College of Medicine should be, and I trust this will be an additional reason, if such be necessary, for inducing you not to withdraw your liberal offer, which cannot fail to be of benefit to this colony.—I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient servant,

WILLIAM ROBINSON,
Governor.

The Hon. E. R. Belilios, C.M.G.

HON. E. R. BELILIOS TO THE GOVERNOR. Hongkong, 4th August, 1896.

Sir,—I beg to acknowledge receipt of your favour of the 31st ultimo enclosing a copy of a report of the Committee appointed to inquire into and report upon the question of the establishment of a College of Medicine for Hongkong and inquiring whether I am prepared to extend my offer to give a site and erect a building thereon to be used as a College to an institution placed under Government control as recommended by the Committee.

In reply I desire to state that circumstances have changed completely since my offer was made. That offer was made to an institution then struggling for existence, but warmly supported by Dr. Cantlie and carefully administered by Dr. Thomson. The former has left the colony, the latter is relinquishing hospital work, and the other medical practitioners are too much occupied to take any keen interest in the institution.

My interest was largely made up of sympathy with the gallant efforts of the two doctors above named to found a College of Medicine for the Chinese.

The situation is now wholly changed. It has been shown by the recent outbreaks of bubonic plague in our midst and the insanitary condition of the city that the work of educating the Chinese in sanitation and a belief in Western medicine is a work that should be undertaken by the Government.

Under the changed conditions, therefore, I have finally resolved not to extend my offer to the College, much as it pains me to refuse assent to any suggestion coming from your Excellency.—I have, &c.

E. R. BELILIOS.

His Excellency the Governor, Sir William Robinson, K.C.M.G.

THE ASSESSMENT FOR 1896-97.

The following report by the Assessor was laid before the Legislative Council on Wednesday.

Assessor's Office.

21st July, 1896.

Sir,—I have the honour to submit my report on the Assessment for the year 1896-97.

2.—By order of His Excellency the Governor in Council I have made a new valuation of the City of Victoria, the Hill District, Kowloon Point, Yau-mati, Ma-ti, Hung-hom, Shauiwan, and Aberdeen.

3.—The result of the new valuation is that the rateable value of the colony as a whole has been increased by \$131,073, equivalent to 3.54 per cent.

4.—Comparing the new valuation with that for the past year (1895-96) the results are as under:—

In the City of Victoria an increase in rateable value of	\$86,852	equal to	2.74
In the Hill District an increase of	16,776	"	18.41
In Kowloon Point an increase of	8,855	"	7.79
In Yau-mati an increase of	15,921	"	36.17
In Ma-ti a decrease of	741	"	33.32
In Hung-hom an increase of	2,355	"	3.04
In Shauiwan an increase of	1,467	"	6.31
In Aberdeen an increase of	79	"	0.35

5.—In the Hongkong villages, i.e., all the villages or places on the Island excluding those mentioned in paragraph 4, there is an increase of \$3,008 or 2.92 per cent., owing to new and improved tenements.

6.—In Kowloon villages, i.e., the Kowloon peninsula excluding places referred to in paragraph 4, there is a decrease of \$2,998 or 4.62 per cent., arising from tenements pulled down, and an adjustment of the boundaries of Yau-mati, whereby a portion of Ma-ti and a place known as Kung-chung have been transferred.

7.—During the period from 1st July, 1895, to 1st June, 1896, interim valuations have been made as follows:—

In the City of Victoria	
67 new tenements, rateable value	\$ 46,930
76 improved tenements, rateable value	\$ 30,890
Replacing Assessments, amounting to	21,820
	9,060

\$ 55,990

172 Assessments cancelled, tenements pulled down 36,445 |

Increase in the City of Victoria \$ 19,545 |

In the Rest of the Colony |

141 new tenements, rateable value \$ 19,462 |

19 improved tenements, rateable value \$ 2,408 |

Replacing Assessments, amounting to 1,584 |

842

208 Assessments cancelled, tenements pulled down \$ 20,286 |

4,751 |

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necessary books and papers to enable me to at once commence upon the new valuation.

121—There has been no change in the staff, Mr. Chan Pui, clerk, and Mr. Ip Ynk Pui, interpreter, having continued to perform their duties in a satisfactory manner. The former is at present acting for Mr. Mok Man Cheung as Translator at the Supreme Court.—I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient servant,

ARTHUR CHAPMAN,
Assessor.

The Honourable A. M. Thomson,
Acting Colonial Treasurer.

THE INCREASE IN TELEGRAPHIC RATES.

The following correspondence has been forwarded to us by the Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce:—

Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce,
Hongkong, 6th August, 1896.

Dear Sir,—After the reduction in the rates charged for telegrams hence to the Straits Settlements and other countries to the south, the advertisement of the 31st July announcing a further revision of rates came as a great surprise, and the extreme brevity of the notice before enforcement of the new tariff seems to my Committee to argue a want of consideration for the public.

The reason put forward by the Telegraph Companies for the advance in their charges is one that assuredly will not stand examination, being clearly opposed to facts as at present known. The price of silver, so far from having declined, has advanced from 1/11½ T.T. in February, 1895, to 2s. 2½ at the present moment, a rise of some 14 per cent. The depreciation of silver in 1895 did not prevent your directors from reducing the telegraphic rate to Europe from \$2.30 to \$2.00 per word.

The extent of the present increase in the rate to Europe, from \$2 to \$2.75, or 37½ per cent., supposing that good reasons existed for an increase, is surely most excessive, and quite out of all proportion to any reductions ever made.

My Committee cannot too strongly protest against action which they consider not only arbitrary, but as verging on an abuse of the monopoly secured by your companies. The rights conferred upon the Telegraph Companies carry with them responsibilities which the pursuit of profits should at no time obscure. Now that the successful conduct of business depends so much on cheap and speedy means of communication, it would seem the interest as well as the privilege of Telegraph Administrations to afford every reasonable encouragement for the promotion of commerce, instead of attempting to handicap it by heavy and to some persons prohibitive rates.

Sincerely trusting your directors will reconsider their action and revert to the old tariff.—I am, dear sir, yours faithfully,

(Signed) R. CHATTERTON WILCOX,
Secretary.

To J. M. Beck, Esq., Acting Manager in China,
E. E. A. & Co. Telegraph Co. and Great Northern Telegraph Co.

The Eastern Extension Australasia and China
Telegraph Company Limited

The Great Northern
Telegraph Company
of Copenhagen

Hongkong Station,
7th August, 1896.

R. Chatterton Wilcox, Esq.,
Secretary,

Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce.

Dear Sir,—I am in receipt of your letter of yesterday's date regarding the recent increase in the Companies' Tariffs to Europe and elsewhere—and setting forth your Committee's views regarding the same.

I shall take the earliest opportunity to forward this communication to my superiors.—I am, dear sir, yours faithfully,

(Signed) J. M. Beck,
Acting Manager.

The American barque *Hatherine*, which left Shanghai on the 15th July for Vancouver, returned to Woosung on the 28th with her ballast shifted, having encountered the typhoon between there and Japan.

HONGKONG VOLUNTEER CORPS.

ANNUAL PRIZE DISTRIBUTION.

On Friday evening the presentation of prizes won at the annual carbine competition of the Hongkong Volunteers took place at the headquarters of the Corps. There was a large attendance of volunteers in uniform and their friends. The proceedings took place on the parade ground and for the occasion a stage had been erected and the grounds illuminated with fairy lamps and Chinese lanterns, the whole having a very pleasing effect. The stage was especially effective; ferns were artistically displayed at the foot, intermingled with the machine and field guns of the Battery. The band of the Hongkong Regiment was present by kind permission of Major Retallick and the officers of the regiment and played several selections of music during the evening.

The presentation of the prizes was made by Major-General Black, who, in a very witty speech, said—Ladies and gentlemen, we are assembled here to-night I hope for a pleasant evening and also to honour the brave, to honour the victors in the competitions. (Applause.) Coming down in the car this morning I asked the officer in command: "Do you expect me to say anything?" and he said "Yes, a few words." I understand, the fewer words the better. (Laughter.) I said, "All right; give me some points." He said, "All right, Sergeant Wylie will give you some points." Well, by Jove, all I can say is this, that if the men who won these prizes had as few points as I got they would be ducks' eggs and would have gained nothing. Talking of shooting, there is always one point you can make chaff of against the English volunteers, and that is by saying, "Who shot the dog?" (Laughter.) I do not know why this should rile them, but it always did. I think to shoot a dog is not an easy thing, as those who try it know—(laughter)—and every man who can shoot a dog can shoot a man—(laughter and applause)—and is therefore a very good soldier. That leads me to say this, that unless a soldier or a volunteer can shoot he is not much use, and shooting is after all the main point. You may be able to do anything else, but if you cannot shoot it is not much use. There is another point—rather a Napoleonic anecdote—that occurred to me when coming down the hill. You remember Napoleon, when he saw the Scots Greys at the battle of Waterloo, asked of an officer, "What are these?" "Oh, your Majesty," said the officer, "them's the Scots Greys," and shortly afterwards when the 42nd Highlanders came marching along he says "Who are these?" "Oh, these are the wives of the Scots Greys," said the officer. (Laughter.) I do not know if that anecdote is true, but I believe it is quite true that Napoleon said of the Scots Greys, "Thank God, there are so few of them." Now when our enemies see the Hongkong Volunteers they might say the same; they might say they could easily beat them; there are so few of them. (Laughter.) Of course, in reality one comes here and stands and says a few things before you and there is not much value in what one says at all, but it occurred to me that I might say a little about that. There are too few of you, but I do say of the few men who have done this volunteer work that you have done very well. (Applause.) The next question that comes before me is the reserve; I spoke of it in my report. There is no doubt a reserve would be an excellent thing. Not only a reserve for officers and non-commissioned officers who would wear the uniform after they leave the corps, but you want some good from the reserve. The reserve must comprise both officers and non-commissioned officers and many men. I quite realise there may be very many men who might be volunteers, but who say, "Our business really takes up too much of our time; we cannot attend to volunteering, but if occasion ever demands it we will join." (Applause.) Thinking of that, I might say this, that if the occasion should ever arise in this colony that occasion will come like a thief in the night, because old things have changed; you do not now hear about long wars, and it will come before you know of it. It would be a very good thing indeed if the commanding gentlemen of the Corps—not so much the officer who is in command of the whole Corps, but I am talking more of the

captain of the corps and his officers and non-commissioned officers—should cast about and really begin now when there is no emergency, to get down the names of the men who would join the Corps in case of emergency. I would have two separate books—one for the Battery and the other for the Maxim Gun Company—and see all the eligible men to-morrow or immediately, and say "Will you join us; will you join the reserve?" I would have them put their names down. The next best thing to doubling and trebling the Corps will be to have their names down. I think it is a sensible plan. I commend it to you. Get these men down on paper that they will be willing to come forward in emergency. Suppose you get more men we can get more guns, they will not be let off with that. But if more men than that join, why they will always be useful to the Gun detachment. You cannot send guns away without infantry, and they will be largely needed if you ever have an opportunity in future. These last remarks of mine I think are really sensible and ought to receive your consideration, but being sensible they are not appropriate to this evening. (Laughter.) You are to have a large number of songs during the evening. After my few remarks, I shall begin to give the prizes, after which we will go on with the programme and spend the pleasant evening we anticipate. (Applause.)

The prizes were then distributed, the Major-General addressing a witty remark respecting either the nature of the prize or the recipient as each man stepped forward to receive his trophy. The prizes were very handsome.

The following is the prize list:—

- 1.—200 yds. (H'cap) Gunner W. Stewart, Field Battery.
- 2.—400 yds. (H'cap) Q.-M. Sergt. G. Watling, Vol. Staff.
- 3.—500 yds. (H'cap) Bombr. T. Meek, Field Battery.
- 4.—Aggregate (Net) 200, 400, and 500 yds' 1st prize, Gunner G. P. Lammert, Machine Gun Co.
Aggregate (Net) 200, 400, and 500 yds. 2nd Prize, Gunner W. Stewart, Field Battery.
Aggregate (H'cap) 200, 400, and 500 yds. 1st Prize, Quarter-Master Sergeant G. Watling, Vol. Staff.
Aggregate (H'cap) 200, 400 and 500 yds. 2nd Prize, Signaller J. Hance, Field Battery.
- 5.—Field Battery Championship, Sergeant J. Lowrie, Field Battery.
- 6.—Machine Gun Co. Championship, Corporal F. Smyth, Machine Gun Co.
- 7.—Officer's Cup (Han'cap), Lieut. D. Macdonald, Field Battery.
- 11.—Carton Prize (Highest Total of Bulls' eyes) Gunner W. Stewart, Field Battery.
- 13.—Corps Championship, 1896, Sergeant J. Lowrie, Field Battery.
- Corps Championship, 1895, Gunner G. P. Lammert, Machine Gun Co.
- 14.—Recruits (Han'cap), Gunner H. A. Lammert, Field Battery.
- 15.—Signaller's Prize, Signaller R. E. Belilios, Field Battery.
- 16.—Instructor's Prize. 1st Prize, Sergeant Major Spencer, R.A.
Instructor's Prize, 2nd Prize, Master Gunner Duggan, R.A.
- 17.—Consolation Prize, Sergeant A. McPhail, Field Battery.
- 18.—Volley Firing (by Sections), No. 1 Section, Field Battery.—Sergeant W. K. Wylie (Section Commander), Sergeant G. C. Hayward, Gunners J. Barry, A. Brown, R. G. Hopkins, Corporal S. W. Hayward, Gunner A. Ronald.

The promenade concert which followed the prize distribution was in every way a success. Each item was well executed and the performers were received with approbation. The humorous songs of Lieut. Grayson were an entertaining item. The following is the programme:—
March "Sharpshooter" E. Lux.
BAND.
Song "Beneath the Skies" From the "Gaiety Girl."
..... Mr. E. W. MATTIAND
Song "MacGregor's Gathering," W. Scott.
..... Sergeant W. K. WYLIE
Quadrille "On Indian Airs" France

BAND.
Song..... "The Yeoman's Wedding Song,"
Poniatowski.
Mr. C. H. GRACE.
Selection..... "Dorothy"..... Winterbottom.
BAND.
Polka..... Fizz..... Whishart.
BAND.
Song..... "Sunshine Above" { From the
"Gaiety Girl."
Song "If it wasn't for the houses in between"
Lieut. GRAYSON.
Song..... "Cœur de Lion" H. J. Stark.
Mr. C. H. GRACE.
Waltz..... "Louisiana"..... Waldteufel.
BAND.
Accompanists, Messrs. G. P. Lammert and
Geo. Grimbale.

HONGKONG GOLF CLUB.

The result of the quarterly meeting is given below. The play was a good deal interfered with by the high wind, some players having to play in a gale:—

MACLEWEN CUP.			
Mr. C. E. Hume	89	4	85
*Mr. J. Stewart	90	4	86
Mr. G. W. F. Playfair	109	18	91
Mr. C. A. Tomes	106	15	91
Mr. J. Hastings	104	12	92
Commodore Boyes	104	11	93
Rev. G. R. Vallings	102	8	94
* Wins the Sweep. 22 Entries.			

BOGIE.			
Mr. C. A. Tomes (15)	4	down	
Mr. G. Stewart (4)	5	down	
Mr. F. J. Badeley (16)	5	down	
Mr. G. W. F. Playfair (18)	6	down	
Mr. H. L. Dalrymple (9)	6	down	
Commodore Boyes (11)	7	down	
Rev. G. R. Vallings (8)	7	down	
Mr. C. E. Hume (4)	7	down	
Mr. H. W. Slade (9)	9	down	
Mr. J. Hastings (12)	10	down	
15 Entries.			

POOL.			
Mr. C. A. Tomes	106	15	91

THE FAREWELL CUP.

When Mr. J. Thurburn left the colony he presented an extremely handsome Bowl to be competed for by members during the summer months of 1896. He placed certain restrictions on the handicaps allowed, that is to say, he considered that no one should receive more than a stroke a hole from a scratch player. This was a very sound reservation, as no one who can hold a club fairly well should ever receive more than 18 strokes in an 18 hole round. In this competition, which has been going on since July 1st (the peculiarity of golf in Hongkong being that it always takes a month or more to play off a tournament), the matches have, in most cases, borne out the allowance of handicaps fairly well. One member, however, has upset the calculations of the handicapper in a desperate manner. When the competition commenced his play was most indifferent, quite worthy of a 24 handicap, but since then by constant practice and trouble he has improved in such a manner that now he stands at 8 and bids fair to go a few better during the month. It is to be hoped he will, as no one is more worthy than the player who improves his game by sheer hard practice.

The course is in fair order generally speaking, but it is a trying soil to have anything to do with; the grass is a mixture of "pig's bristles and sword blades;" it defies scyth and mowing machine and almost breaks the heart of any one who has to battle with it. But still constant mowing has some effect and if this is kept up and the hurdle hazards kept in repair, golf in Hongkong should be as good as anywhere in the East. Mr. Vallings is to be heartily congratulated on winning such an extremely handsome prize, which becomes his absolute property.

The final was a magnificent match. Mr. Hume gained the advantage at the beginning and at one time stood 4 up and 6 to play, but he could not hold Mr. Vallings, to whom he had to give such odds. Both men played very well, some of their approaches being magnificent.

FIRST TIES.
Commodore Boyes Mr. H. W. Robertson
Mr. W. M. Thompson Mr. W. J. Saunders
Mr. C. Palmer Dr. J. M. Atkinson
Capt. Rumsey Mr. F. J. Badeley
Mr. A. S. Anton Rev. G. R. Vallings
Mr. G. Stewart Mr. W. A. Duff
Mr. C. A. Tomes Mr. V. A. C. Hawkins
Mr. E. A. Ram Mr. C. Percival
Mr. C. W. May Mr. H. P. Tooker
Mr. J. Hastings Mr. E. V. Brennan
Dr. J. Bell Mr. E. M. Knox
Mr. E. W. Maitland Mr. H. L. Dalrymple
Mr. R. L. Richardson Capt. W. V. Eccles
Mr. A. Coxon Mr. C. W. Spriggs
Mr. C. E. Hume Mr. G. W. F. Playfair

Mr. P. de C. Morris (allowing 2 strokes) beat Mr. H. Barton by 2 holes up.
Mr. C. H. Grace (allowing 5 strokes) beat Mr. J. Forbes by 8 up and 7 to play.

2ND TIES.

Mr. W. M. Thompson (allowing 3 strokes) beat Commodore Boyes, 2 up.
Capt. Rumsey (allowing 2 strokes) beat Mr. C. Palmer, 1 up.
Mr. A. S. Anton (receiving 3 strokes) beat Mr. J. Stewart, 2 up.
Mr. C. A. Tomes (receiving 3 strokes) beat Mr. E. A. Ram 4 up and 3 to play.
Mr. C. W. May beat Mr. J. Hastings 4 up and 2 to play.
Dr. J. Bell (allowing 2 strokes) beat Mr. E. W. Maitland 2 up and 1 to play.
Mr. R. L. Richardson beat Mr. A. Coxon (scratched).
Mr. C. E. Hume beat Mr. H. W. Robertson (scratched).

Mr. W. J. Saunders (receiving 2 strokes) beat Dr. Atkinson by 1 up.
Rev. G. R. Vallings (receiving 2 strokes) beat Mr. F. J. Badeley 3 up and 2 to play.
Mr. V. A. C. Hawkins (allowing 3 strokes) beat Mr. W. A. Duff 3 up and 2 to play.
Mr. C. Percival (allowing 2 strokes) beat Mr. H. P. Tooker 7 up and 5 to play.
Mr. E. M. Knox beat Mr. E. V. Brennan 7 up and 5 to play.
Mr. H. L. Dalrymple (receiving 7 strokes) beat Capt. W. V. Eccles at the 20th hole.
Mr. C. W. Spriggs beat Mr. G. W. F. Playfair 4 up and 3 to play.
Mr. C. H. Grace (allowing 2 strokes) beat Mr. Morris 5 up and 3 to play.

3RD TIES.

Mr. W. M. Thompson (receiving 2 strokes) beat Captain Rumsey by 3 up and 1 to play.
Mr. A. S. Anton (allowing 5 strokes) beat Mr. C. A. Tomes by 3 up and 2 to play.
Mr. C. W. May (allowing 2 strokes) beat Dr. Bell by 5 up and 4 to play.
Mr. C. E. Hume (allowing 13 strokes) beat Mr. R. L. Richardson by 5 up and 3 to play.
Rev. G. R. Vallings beat Mr. W. J. Saunders by 10 up and 8 to play.
Mr. V. A. C. Hawkins (allowing 8 strokes) beat Mr. C. Percival by 4 up and 2 to play.
Mr. H. L. Dalrymple (allowing 7 strokes) beat Mr. E. M. Knox (scratched).
Mr. C. H. Grace (allowing 5 strokes) beat Mr. C. W. Spriggs by 2 up and 1 to play.

4TH TIES.

Mr. A. S. Anton (allowing 2 strokes) beat Mr. W. M. Thompson by 6 up and 5 to play.
Mr. C. E. Hume (allowing 6 strokes) beat Mr. C. W. May by 2 up and 1 to play.
Rev. G. R. Vallings (receiving 8 strokes) beat Mr. Hawkins by 5 up and 3 to play.
Mr. H. L. Dalrymple (allowing 2 strokes) beat Mr. Grace by 2 up and 1 to play.

5TH TIES.

Mr. C. E. Hume (allowing 3 strokes) beat Mr. A. S. Anton by 3 up and 2 to play.
Rev. G. R. Vallings (receiving 7 strokes) beat Mr. Dalrymple by 9 up and 7 to play.

FINAL.

Rev. G. R. Vallings (receiving 11 strokes) beat Mr. C. E. Hume by 1 hole.

A correspondent at Amoy writes us that tea shippers there are awaiting with considerable interest news of the arrival in New York of their consignments per *Empress of Japan* and *Coptic*. The former had 16½ hours' start from Amoy, but had to stop at Shanghai. Both steamers are expected to do their best across the Pacific, but of course there will be no racing.—*N. C. Daily News*.

H. G. BROWN & CO., LIMITED.

The following is the report for presentation to shareholders at the seventh ordinary yearly meeting to be held at No. 27, Queen's Road, at noon, on Monday, 17th August:—

The General Managers now beg to submit their report, and a statement of the Company's accounts for the year 1895, and regret that these again show an unfavourable result, the working account showing a loss of \$14,889.38 carried to debit of profit and loss account, which latter account now shows a debit balance of no less than \$90,129.75.

It was hoped that this time the accounts would prove much more favourable than for some years past, charges having been curtailed, and a larger business with the timber market in Manila developed; but these hopes have been disappointed.

The Committee in Manila have been looking after the management of the Company's business at that end, and have devoted much time and trouble to same, and the thanks of the Company are due to them for their good services.

CONSULTING COMMITTEE.

Messrs. G. C. Orr and C. Palmer retire in accordance with the Company's articles of association, but, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

AUDITOR.

The accounts have been audited by Mr. Fullerton Henderson, who offers himself for re-election.

GEO. LIVINGSTON & CO.,
General Managers.

Hongkong, 4th August, 1896.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS TO DECEMBER 31st, 1895.

LIABILITIES.		\$	c.
Capital:—			
6,000 shares of \$50 each fully paid-up	800,000.00		
Hongkong and Shanghai Bank amount over drawn	3,967.73		
Sundry creditors	2,359.31		
Provision for bad debts	2,485.92		
	\$308,763.46		
ASSETS.		\$	c.
Goodwill:—			
Amount paid H. G. Brown & Co. as per last account	41,400.00		
Property:—			
Saw-mills, erections, machinery, &c.	48,759.10		
Schooner <i>Congo</i>	15,068.22		
Brig <i>Enrique</i>	12,150.00		
Schooner <i>Elena</i>	9,519.84		
Steam launch <i>Lotus</i>	8,602.95		
Dwelling houses	11,550.44		
Furniture	4,620.30		
Banahian cutting	13,230.43		
Boats' implements and stores	3,117.11		
Stock of timber in Hongkong, Shanghai, and the Philippine Islands	24,095.60		
Stock of timber at the saw-mills	3,216.65		
Sundry debtors	15,909.31		
Varadero shares	5,250.00		
Insurance, value of unexpired portion of policies	845.77		
Cash in hand	1,814.19		
Balance of profit and loss account	90,129.75		
	\$308,763.46		

WORKING ACCOUNT, 1895.

Dr.		\$	c.
To salaries and wages	5,681.44		
To charges	5,613.40		
To saw-mills working	4,887.13		
To steam launch <i>Lotus</i> working	2,961.55		
To exchange	2,106.82		
To office expenses, Hongkong	1,500.00		
To telegrams	239.37		
To repairs to property	194.63		
To auditor's fees	100.00		
To stationery	107.11		
	\$23,441.95		

Cr.		\$	c.
By profit on sales of timber in the Philippine Islands and with Agents	2,198.81		
By profit on <i>Congo</i> , <i>Enrique</i> , and <i>Elena</i> working	5,988.28		
By interest	351.68		
By scrip fees	17.00		
By balance transferred to profit and loss account	14,889.38		
	\$23,441.95		

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT, 1895.

To amount brought forward from last account	66,204.35
To bad debts	7,527.44
To deposit of export duty on <i>Penshaw's</i> cargo	1,508.58
To balance of working account brought down	14,889.38

\$90,129.75

By balance carried forward to a new account 90,129.75

\$90,129.75

CURR S ND NC.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.]

MR. BELILIOS AND THE COLLEGE OF MEDICINE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

SIR,—At a moment when there is a tendency on the part of some to criticize the action of the Hon. E. B. Belilios, C.M.G., in declining to extend the offer he made to the College of Medicine for Chinese to the proposed Government Medical College, I think it is due to that gentleman to let it be more publicly known that he is permanently taking a large share in the medical educational work that is quietly in progress.

Out of Trust Funds established by Mr. Belilios some years ago seven students of the College hold scholarships amounting to \$100 each, practically maintaining them; and if the Belilios Fund in the Alice Memorial Hospital, of which the students in their clinical work reap the indirect benefit, be taken into account, it will be seen that he is through his investments contributing now—and has done so for years—close on a thousand dollars annually towards the spread of Western medical knowledge among the Chinese.—I am, sir, yours truly,

JOHN C. THOMSON,

Hon. Secretary,

College of Medicine for Chinese.

College of Medicine for Chinese,

Hongkong, 8th August, 1896.

BOYD AND COMPANY, LIMITED.

The fifth annual general meeting of the shareholders in this Company was held on the 23rd July at the Shanghai Club. Mr. John Prentice presided, and there were present, Messrs. Charles W. Hay, James Johnston (Directors), R. Swain, W. H. Poate, J. D. Thorburn, J. Tulloch, A. H. Stewart, J. E. Marshall, A. Cushny, C. Thorne, E. O. Arbuthnot, F. Gove, and J. Mackenzie (Secretary), representing in all 6,288 shares.

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report, said he thought the shareholders would admit the result of the year's working had been remarkably good, but that had been due to exceptional circumstance, such as want of dockage accommodation in Japan—which he was sorry to say was not likely to last as they were constructing a good many docks there—and the expansion of local industries, which they hoped would continue. The net earnings of the year were Tls. 108,186.81 more than those of last year, showing an increase of 80 per cent. He thought that would be considered very satisfactory. It was due to the great demand which had kept the Company working almost night and day. The balance at credit of profit and loss account, after deducting directors' and auditor's fees, was Tls. 257,567.24, which it was proposed to appropriate as follows:—

	Tls.
To add to reserve fund	60,000.00
To place to maintenance and depreciation account	20,000.00
To pay a dividend of 15 per cent. on ordinary shares, amounting to	117,000.00
To pay a dividend to founders of Tls. 117 per share	23,400.00
To carry forward to new account ...	37,167.24

The present was the first dividend the founders had got out of the Company. They might have had something before, but the directors thought it better in the interest of the Company to declare a small dividend and work up a reserve fund. The reserve fund would now stand at Tls. 160,000, part of which was invested in local stocks and part on fixed deposit in the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank. As to the amount invested in local stocks, its present value was Tls. 27,000 more than the amount stated in the accounts, so that in five years the Company had built up a reserve fund of Tls. 187,000 and had paid dividends of 10 per cent. the first year, 12 per cent. the three following years, and now 15 per cent. Mr. C. W. Hay, one of the directors, and Mr. Thorburn, the auditor retired, but offered themselves for re-election. He proposed:—That the report and

statement of accounts as presented be approved and passed.

Mr. C. W. Hay seconded, and the resolution was carried unanimously.

Proposed by Mr. Poate, and seconded by Captain Swain, Mr. C. W. Hay was re-elected a director; and, proposed by Mr. A. H. Stewart, and seconded by Mr. J. Tulloch, Mr. J. D. Thorburn was re-elected auditor. The proceedings terminated with a vote of thanks to the directors, proposed by Mr. C. Thorne and seconded by Captain Swain.—N. C. Daily News.

THE TAOTAI'S DESIGNS ON THE SHANGHAI BUND FORESHORE.

Shanghai, 30th July.

It is difficult to over-estimate the indignation that will be felt in Shanghai when it is learnt that the Taotai has instructed a foreign broker to sell the foreshore of the Bund. Emboldened, no doubt, by the success that has apparently attended the confiscation of the foreshore belonging to Mrs. Fergusson at Chefoo, the Taotai sees in the confiscation and sale of our foreshore a simple and effective means of raising the wind. The upset price, we learn, is Tls. 7,000 per *mow*. The report seems hardly credible, but we believe there is no doubt about it. Whether the Taotai is acting under foreign advice or not, we do not yet know; this will, no doubt, come out in time, and if it is a foreigner who has suggested this expedient, we hope that we shall soon know who the would-be traitor is.

We have referred before now to the letter written many years ago by the late Mr. E. Cunningham of Messrs. Russell & Co., in which he pointed out that the Bund foreshore would never be diverted from public use, because it was protected by a triple ownership, that ownership being claimed by the Municipal Council on behalf of the public, the Bund lot-holders, and the Chinese Government; and if one of them, he said, should attempt to make use of the foreshore for private purposes, the other two will join in resisting the usurpation. The time has come apparently for the Bund lot-holders and the Council to unite in resisting this intended usurpation by the Taotai. From a legal point of view the Taotai's claim is worthless. In the original Land Regulations of 1854, accepted by the then Taotai Kung Moo-ken, the eastern boundary of the Settlement is stated to be "the river Hwangpoo;" and it was provided by Article V. that "land heretofore surrendered by the various foreign renters to public use, such as roads and the beach grounds of the rivers within the aforesaid limits, shall remain henceforth dedicated to the same uses," and this provision was repeated in the Land Regulations of 1869. The Chinese Government through its Taotai here was a consenting party to the permanent dedication of the Bund foreshore to public uses, and of nothing has the public in Shanghai been more jealous, and more properly jealous, than of the maintenance of its right to keep that foreshore an open space for public use. The validity of the Land Regulations, on which doubt has been thrown more than once, was distinctly upheld by the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council in the *Ince v. Thorburn* appeal case in 1886, and that is good enough for us. When it was decided, at the Ratepayers' Meeting in 1879, to clear away the sheds and material that disfigured the Bund foreshore, it was "provided that nothing in this resolution shall be construed to prejudice the existing rights, if any, of the bund lot-holders," but nothing was said about the rights of the Chinese Government. We do not recognise that the Taotai has any rights whatever over the Bund foreshore. All that the foreigners undertook to do, *vis-à-vis* the Chinese Government, when the Settlement was planned, was to keep a road along the river from the Yangkingpang northwards not less than twenty-five Chinese feet in width, and the foreign merchants were authorised to make jetties, and erect gateways or railings on these jetties, for the purpose of opening and shutting at pleasure. It is of course a "try-on" on the part of the Taotai, and Shanghai would never allow its Bund lawns to be confiscated, but this consequence of the apparent success of the Taotai

at Chefoo shows the importance of remembering the maxim *Obsta principiis*. The China Association have taken the matter up vigorously, and no doubt the Municipal Council will do so too; but the Taotai's proposal is a characteristic return for the voluntary protection given by the British Government to Shanghai and the Yangtze in the late war.

3rd August.

We must not attach too much importance to the attempt of energetic Chinese officialdom to "jump a claim" on the Bund foreshore. Such attempts have even been a recurring feature in the records of the Settlements. The history of the Public Garden and of the Soochow Creek foreshore, the Ince case and Browett incident, the records of the Bubbling Well, Woosung, and Sinza Roads, all tend to show clearly that few, if any, Chinese officials have ever realised the nature and rights of the foreign settlements or the meaning of the Land Regulations; they cannot realise the existence of any form of honest local government, and only recognising in the Municipal Council a body of merchants engaged in plundering for their own ends, they see no reason why they, the local officials, should not share in the plunder. Their attempts in the past, however, have usually been tentative and half-hearted, requiring only a little firmness for their defeat. That the present case (though possibly representing more money and more scientific tactics than have hitherto been brought to bear) will prove a serious one, we do not believe; for on the face of it, it has no *locus standi* whenever. But the booty apparently in sight is tempting enough to make any native official's mouth water.

The present therefore appears to be a fitting moment to recall briefly so much of the history of the Bund foreshore as bears on the case. That history, like most public matters in Shanghai, has suffered from lack of continuity and the absence of a clearly defined policy, and the final definition of foreshore rights under all their aspects has always been postponed on the "let sleeping dogs lie" principle. It is probably this fact that has given rise to the present laudable scheme; but its promoters would do well to remember that the difficulty of defining the Bund's status has hitherto been entirely with regard to the rights of the original lot holders *vis-à-vis* the public (or the Council) and concerning their respective rights. The position of the Chinese authorities in the matter presents no such difficulties.

Into the history of all the slow steps by which the refuse-strewn foreshore of former days became the lawn promenade of the present, we have not space to go. All we can do is to recall a few points which bear clearly on the case in hand. And first of all we would refer our readers to the remarks addressed by Consul Winchester to the Landrenters' Meeting of March, 1866, in which he clearly states that the surrender of the lots by the original holders "for the public use" means a right of way *along the river-bank* for ever. The Bund and its foreshore were made by the public, and improved at the public expense and the then Taotai himself contributed Tls. 20,000 towards the work as a gift to the Community.

This aspect of the case was, however, soon forgotten. Officials and Councils changed, and in 1871 and 1873 we find this very question of the ownership of the foreshore raised by the Taotai who advanced certain pretensions to it only to abandon them later on. Again in 1877 we find Liu Taotai asking that the Municipal Council be "enjoined from taking unauthorised possession of a river's bank," and we cannot do better than to quote from the very able despatch of U.S. Consul Bradford, dated the 21st of June, 1877, in reply:—

"The southern or river boundary of the land is the 'Whampoo river,' and the 'mouth of the Soochow Creek,' which, as I understand the law of your honourable country in this point, clearly permits the foreshore to attach to the land in the rear, for is it not an old established rule that land on a river's bank follows the course of the stream in its shifting, and only the landholder has the benefit of any accretion, he, however, paying to the Government the tax thereon. In the case in point, it is possible that the accretion has not been added to the area called for in the title deed, but that

may easily be done, and the additional area ascertained for purpose of taxation.

"The question of ownership which you raise has been brought up on several occasions by one or more of your honourable predecessors, and several precedents are on record in this office and in your *yamen*, and I was hopeful that the principle was clearly established thereby. I will cite one or more. In 1871 the point came up in respect of title deeds Nos. 268 and 270, and in 1873 in the case of title deed No. 246. The Taotai at that time proposed in his view of the case to fix a price *per mor* for the accretions, but so untenable a position was upon examination abandoned by him, he finding that under the law his authority was to ascertain the area of such accretion for purpose of taxation. In one case, having the report of his deputy, he not only added the area of accretion to the measurement on the old deed, but went so far as to embrace it in the consideration expressed for the last purchase. If you will consult the records of about April, 1873, you will find the report of the deputies in the instance referred to, as communicated to this office by the Taotai. In this connection I desire to remark that I consider the title deeds for land held by foreigners are simply leases or grants from the Imperial Government, and I know of no clause in them whereby any rights are reserved or abridged, which would be enjoyed by a Chinese holder, who I understand enjoys the right to the alluvial deposit of the river. This deposit is esteemed both in your honourable country and in mine to be a natural result, consequent upon the peculiar situation of the land so fronting the stream. The principle seems to obtain near the junk anchorage at Tunkah-dco, where I am informed taxes are actually paid by the owners of the front lots upon land for several tens of feet under water. They do this as willingly as the foreign renter, who asks that an accretion be surveyed and added to his title deed.

"Moreover, in a despatch from the Taotai about the 12th September, 1873, he returned, after examination, to the Consular body, a plan of the proposed bund line and bunding, prepared for the month of the Soochow creek. He made one or two suggestions as to the width of the channel. The plan so modified was submitted to the Municipal Council, and in October, 1873, Mr. Seward informed the Taotai that the Council had accepted his amended plan. The matter has therefore been fixed long since, and the records seem complete. The filling in of which you speak is clearly within the lines defined and accepted by the Taotai, the Consuls, and the Municipal Council. Why should it then become necessary or expedient to pronounce against a settled scheme made for the public good, or to agitate a subject in the discussion of which, from your premises, no good result is likely to be obtained? When such matters are brought to your notice by those who are not fully informed, if you will ask information it will always be gladly given you from reliable quarters, and thus much time would be saved and useless speculative theories avoided, and the public interest will not be harmed.

"I trust that in view of these and other premises which might be cited; the established precedents, and your knowledge of the law, you will agree with me that to insist upon the right to control the foreshore of the lot in question would be against precedent, which is supported by accepted plans, and would be contrary to law and custom."

Consul Bradford's argument that the foreign land-renter's rights *vis-à-vis* the Chinese Government are the same as those enjoyed by a Chinese holder is an extremely strong and valid one; and it must be borne in mind that the eastern boundary as given on the Bund lot title deed is *p'ut'an*, the "river-beach, or mud flat." As was pointed out by Dr. Yates (who agreed with Mr. Bradford) at a meeting of ratepayers in May, 1869, the meaning of such a boundary in Chinese title-deeds is "to low water mark," and he says, "so that if the river filled up to Pootung, the land would still belong to the Bund lot-holders. . . . All the owner of the Bund lot has to do to secure his title is to register the increase and pay the land tax." Now the foreshore having been surrendered for public use, the question whether

the municipality is bound to pay government land tax thereon is an open and a complicated one which has before now been referred (uselessly) to Peking. It is, however, unimportant. The procedure at present in force precludes the municipality from paying such taxes on any land for which it does not hold title deeds, and the foreshore title deeds are in the hands of the Bund lot-holders. If, however, it should be decided by good authority that the tax is properly payable, there is nothing to prevent either the Council or the Bund lot-renters from paying such amounts as may be in arrear. This was the course taken when the Council for 1885-6 was instructed by the ratepayers to pay the Chinese Government tax on municipal roads; and arrears due for 14 years were then paid. But there is no mention in the Land Regulations of any penalty attaching to non-payment of this tax, beyond the recovery of the actual amount (under article VIII.) in a summary manner.

We now come to the question of accretions—the most important point. The history of the Bund foreshore tends to show that unfortunately litigation on this point has not been confined—as it should have been—to the laws governing ownership of land in China; and in such cases as *Regina v. Reynolds* and the *Harbour Master v. Hall & Holtz*, decisions based on the laws of foreign countries have only served to complicate the situation and to provide occasion for that pettifogging policy which the Chinese love. In the former case, it was laid down by the Court that "if a certain piece of land were given in the title deeds as being of so many *mor* between certain limits, of which low water were one, and if low water subsequently receded, it was of no advantage to the renter;" a principle entirely contrary to Chinese law, which gives the renter a claim on all accretions, on payment of a nominal sum (varying between 12 and 32 taels) for registering the same. The expression of this unfortunate opinion has done a great deal of harm; for the Chinese and their hungry advisers have triumphantly brought it up against successive Consuls and Councils ever since, quite oblivious of the fact that, though it may be sound English law, it has nothing whatsoever to do with land rented under Chinese title deeds, from the Emperor of China. Mr. Bradford, in the despatch already quoted, refused rightly enough to admit the case of Mr. Reynolds as an argument.

Similarly the Supreme Court's utterance in the case of *Harbour Master v. Hall & Holtz* was untimely and unnecessary, for though it only stated the self-evident fact that "land between high and low water belongs to the Emperor of China," it stated it in such a way as to let the native authorities believe they could with impunity deal as they liked with such land. Now, all foreign-rented land in the settlements of Shanghai belongs to, and is leased from, the Emperor—in token of which fact the Government tax is paid—but the conditions of tenure are clearly fixed by usage, by title deeds, and, last but not least, by the Land Regulations. Art. VI of those Regulations (the study of which should be made compulsory on all Taotais) distinctly states that "land heretofore surrendered by the various foreign renters to public use, such as roads and the beach grounds of rivers within the aforesaid limits, shall remain henceforth dedicated to the same uses." This surely is plain enough, and allows no room for quibbling. It is the beach of the river that is reserved for public use, and not any other spot—if the river recedes the beach goes with it—and the Land Regulations, though often questioned, have always proved to have sufficient force behind them to ensure their general observance.

In this connection it may be well to note the strong opinion of Mr. Seward, regarding their validity as expressed in 1875 (*vide Council v. Fogg*), and to remember that Sir E. Hornby (in *Council v. Wills*) held them to be of equal authority with the charter of Hongkong.

The recent Chefoo case, to which the present scheme has been compared, would have a certain bearing upon it if (1) Shanghai had no Land Regulations, and (2) if the Shanghai Bund foreshore had not long ago been surrendered by the original renters for public use in perpetuity. These two conditions render the

cases entirely dissimilar, and they preclude any possibility of interference with the existing *status quo* in Shanghai.

Even were the question one of private ownership by a land-renter, the fact of non-registration of any accretion could not lead to eventual forfeiture of the right to register such accretion, unless the greatest indifference were displayed by the Consul concerned. Such forfeiture would be against the principles of Chinese land-law, though that law is elastic enough to work in all sorts of ways. We know that of late years certain native officials, taking advantage of Consular apathy in such matters, have been refusing to *shenko* (or register) foreshore accretions at Wootung and other places. Such action cannot be sustained either by law or custom; and the sooner such methods of filling official coffers are restrained, the better. But the Bund foreshore does not stand on the same footing as land rented by a private individual. It has, under clear title deeds, a right of way along the river-bank, a right which has been surrendered for the public use for ever, and which, under the Land Regulations, can never be diverted from that use. That any native official should dream, even in his most impecunious moments, of tampering with the Settlement's clearly established rights in this matter is only another proof of the lengths to which they will go when actuated by greed, ignorance, and the probable absence of reprisals. But we believe the whole scheme to be due to the over-zealous promptings of some energetic but ignorant "adviser," and we can only re-echo the sound advice of Consul Bradford to Liu Taotai concerning the futility of taking "advice from those who are not fully informed," and the avoidance of "speculative theories" in general.

In conclusion, there can be no question of the Council paying the Taotai, or anyone else, for any accretions to the public foreshore. The Land Tax, if not paid, may be payable on application received from the proper quarters; but the necessity for registering (*shenko*) foreshore accretions is not, and cannot, be the same in the case of public lands as in the case of private individuals. No Taotai can go beyond Art. VI. of the Land Regulations.—*N. C. Daily News*.

NEWCHWANG FLOODED.

Newchwang, 25th July.

After several days of hot, dry weather, the rainy season set in—rather prematurely, however. In rather less than 24 hours, nearly 8 inches of rainfall were registered. Yesterday, as a consequence, we had no perceptible ebb-tide, and when the strong spring-tide came up in the afternoon it was at once apparent that something phenomenal would happen. However, little preparation was made to meet consequent occurrences. At about 3 p.m. the tide was at its normal height. The water had still three hours to rise, and it did, with a vengeance. The tide had not risen to such an extent for thirty years, and the floods in 1888 were small in comparison. The water broke over the only piece of promenading ground the foreigners can utilize—the Bund. It was at the site of the *Rattler's* winter dock that the mischief commenced in the Settlement. In less than an hour the whole Settlement was flooded. Most foot traffic was immediately replaced by sampans and foreign boats. Crafts of all descriptions and dimensions were requisitioned, and it was a novel sight to see sampans sculling through the streets of our Settlement. However, there was work for these. Foreign ladies and children had to be rescued from flooded houses and brought to places of comparative safety. In some foreign houses the water rose to eighteen inches above the flooring and in Chinese to over three feet. It was piteous to see whole families of Chinese coming down the streets in sampans, having lost their all. Hundreds of houses are reported to have collapsed, and thousands of people are rendered homeless. This is in our vicinity. As one proceeds up river the desolation increases in proportion. Miles and miles of crops are under water, and altogether the damage is calculated by hundreds of thousands of taels. The desolation and destruction were more apparent when

the water had fallen. Foreign warehouses were made impregnable by means of straw, mud, and other conveniences; in one case only some considerable damage to piece goods was done. The Customs' examination offices were two feet under water; no damage, however, was done to Customs' property. Others fared less luckily. Whole walls, roofs, and houses of foreigners collapsed and the dearth of dwelling places is thereby increased. Several cases of drowning are reported down town and accidents were numerous. The whole, however, was not without humorous incidents. One foreigner, in wading up to his middle in water, suddenly disappeared in a hole and after an absence of about ten seconds reappeared, blustering and puffing like a porpoise, to the amusement of the small boys who were sitting at the edges like so many cranes. A smart little skiff, flying the "Yuen Lai" flag, intending to deposit its living contents on what was thought, under the circumstances, to be *terra firma*, but on the valiant taipan stepping over the side to reconnoitre he completely disappeared, and it was only his swimming capabilities and the aid of boat-hooks that saved him from an inevitable inquest. A good deal of sickness prevails at present, both among Chinese and foreigners, and at this time of year the occurrences described will only intensify matters.—*Mercury correspondent.*

THE NATIVE SCARE AT SOOCHOW.

Shanghai, 29th July.

On Saturday we published a note from a correspondent at Soochow giving some details of dangerous rumours being circulated in the vicinity against foreigners, somewhat similar to the usual libellous reports circulated by the intriguing gentry and *literati* in the inland and Yangtze towns. From trustworthy native sources at Soochow we are now able to supplement our Soochow correspondent's note.

The story goes that on the 19th instant several foreigners, accompanied by their "boys," went for an excursion along the canal bank outside the Changmen gate of Soochow, which is the busiest thoroughfare of that city. The foreigners' walk extended as far as the foot of the Huch'iu hill where is situated the temple of the "white-robed" goddess of mercy, Kuan Yin, and nunnery. The foreigners, followed by their servants, entered the temple and were affably received by the abbess. During the conversation which ensued some yellow bags hanging suspended from a rafter before the image of Kuan Yin attracted the notice of the visitors, and one of them pointing to these bags asked what they were. "Name bags," said the nun. "What do these name bags imply?" was again asked. "Well," replied the nun, "each contains the name of a child who at some time or other had an attack of small-pox, the mother of whom, anxious for the safety of her child, writes out its name and horoscope, containing the year, month, date and hour of its birth, and placing these in the yellow bags you now see, the mother presents her child as a votive offering to the Goddess of Mercy in order to procure the constant protection of the Goddess, now the child's patroness. The child is then taken away by its mother, who leaves the yellow bag and its contents hanging before the altar of the Goddess, in the place of the child." While this conversation was going on a crowd of village children gathered, as usual, round the foreigners, while those further away shouted out "Foreign devils!" repeatedly. The special objects of this insulting outery, however, took no notice of the children, but their "boys" and servants called out "Stop that! If you don't, these foreigners will catch you." The children upon hearing this threat fled home to tell their parents that the foreigners had come to catch them and take them away. This story being corroborated by the parents of other children a panic ensued, of which the rowdy classes at once took advantage. The alarm was then given and gongs beaten, and a large body of peasants and rowdies, armed with clubs, spears, and scythes, assembled to attack the unsuspecting foreigners in the nunnery. Fortunately, there were men of influence in the villages who knew better and through their means the villagers were made to disperse without

committing any outrage on the foreigners. The latter, quite unconscious of all that had happened, after a while left the temple and returned to their inn in the city without mishap or misadventure. But the rumour had been spread about by the rowdy classes, anxious for pillage and plunder, to the effect that "foreigners building at Ch'ingyang had found the ground there too yielding and soft and to prevent the sinking of foundations in the future they were anxious to procure a number of children for immolation in the foundations and also intended to steal all the name bags in the temples and nunneries in Soochow prefecture to use them as a charm against the evil influences." A great panic arose wherever the report reached, and a general stampede of families and children took place. Refugees from Soochow fled the same night to the outlying towns for refuge against the foreigner, while on the other hand people from these towns fled to Soochow. At a place called Hsiangshan, about 15 miles from Soochow, several boats laden with granite chips for the new settlement at Soochow, the boatmen of which wore tight-fitting jackets and Japanese-made straw hats (sold in Shanghai for twenty cents each) were mistaken for foreigners, and the cry at once was raised that the foreigners had come to Hsiangshan to take the name bags from the large temple there. A rush was then made for the temple, but the priests closed the doors, fearful of a riot. The people then accused the priests of having been bribed by the foreigners. The result was that the doors were broken in, the priests dangerously hurt, and all the name bags recovered by the people, who started the same night in a body for Soochow, which was the place where these rumours originated. According to another account the passenger boats of a large and important town named T'ang'kou, about 20 miles from Soochow, stopped running for three days between the two points fearful lest foreigners might take passage in these boats to T'ang'kou to capture children and their name bags in the temples. —*N. C. Daily News.*

THE DROWNING OF CONSUL-GENERAL HAAS.

Shanghai, 29th July.

The *Kiangteen* arrived yesterday morning bringing details of the sad death of Mr. Haas. It appears that after landing at Pootoo on Sunday Mr. Haas' party took chairs and went to a bay at some distance to bathe. There was a strong ebb-tide running, which Captain Pratt estimates at about 7 knots, and after they had been some time in the water Mr. Haas was observed to show signs of distress. Mr. Ghisi and a gentleman Brandt, of the Customs in Ningpo, at once went to his assistance, but were quite unable to help him. Mr. Ghisi succeeded in getting ashore in a greatly exhausted condition, but Mr. Brandt was carried out by the tide, and, after being nearly two hours in the water, managed to get near some rocks where some Buddhist priests who had witnessed the occurrence procured ropes and succeeded in dragging him out of the water in an almost unconscious state. Mr. Haas was seen struggling in the water for a short time, but he finally sank. No assistance was possible, as there was not a boat to be obtained in the neighbourhood. Mr. Haas was known to have a weak heart, and it is thought that in all probability he was attacked by syncope.

On the *Kiangteen's* arrival at Ningpo an affidavit setting forth the facts of the accident was filed before Mr. Playfair, acting Consul for Austro-Hungary. Up to the present no news has been received of the recovery of the body. —*N. C. Daily News.*

A Tokyo press despatch of the 28th July says:—A telegram was received by the Bank of Japan the day before yesterday to the effect that the Russian Government is trying to raise in London a loan of 400,000,000 francs bearing interest at 3 per cent. The money is required to accelerate the completion of the Siberian railway and also to further the war preparations. The circulation of this report in Europe has resulted in a great advance in the price of gold.

ANOTHER TIDAL WAVE.

Shanghai, 1st August.

The local mandarins received last night despatches from the Assistant Salt Comptroller at Haichou, on the north-eastern coast of this province, to the effect that after a heavy spell of rain and wind that sub-prefecture was on Sunday last visited by a huge tidal wave, nearly five miles in width, which swept away a number of villages on the seashore, occasioning a loss of life estimated, at the present moment, at about four thousand. A very large number of cattle are also reported lost. The rice fields further inland have been inundated and a famine is feared in the autumn.—*N. C. Daily News.*

MACAO.

[FROM A CORRESPONDENT].

MACAO, 7th August.

Permission was requested by telegraph from the Lisbon Government to draw from the Treasury the sum of \$40,000 for the repair of the damage caused by the recent typhoon. A reply has been received, also by telegraph, which allows only \$6,000 for the repair of the public buildings to be drawn. The Praya wall and the streets have been in charge of the Leal Senado (Municipal Council) since two or three years ago. When the Council assumed this responsibility they were quite proud of their great undertaking, but now they are in a difficult position, the Government only allowing \$6,000 and the Leal Senado having to raise the money to cover the balance of the cost of the repairs.

The annual income of the Leal Senado is about \$40,000, but there are many expenses, such as the Municipal Police, education, street cleaning, public lighting, etc. "Serve them right" is the popular verdict on the members of the Leal Senado. They should first have ascertained the income and arranged their expenditure accordingly.

A meeting of the Leal Senado was held yesterday and it was decided to try to make the pork monopolists pay for the typhoon damage by levying a fee of 50 cents on the slaughter of pigs of 50 catties weight, and of \$1 on animals over that weight. The new tax is subject to the approval of the Government. If it be brought into force the public will suffer, as pork sellers will put up their prices. The pork farmer pays the Government about \$30,000 for his monopoly. The number of pigs slaughtered annually is about 36,000.

At the beginning of June a notification was issued increasing the house tax by 3 per cent. We have been paying 12 per cent. to the Government and 17 per cent. on that amount to the Leal Senado, and now we have to pay 20 per cent. to the latter.

The Macao sucking pig is Timor. During the financial year 1895-96 that island has drawn from the Macao Treasury \$110,000, by the last Australian mail \$5,000, and a few days ago another demand for \$20,000 was received, with an intimation that if it was not complied with the war against the natives could not continue. It is hard to see Macao's money going in this way, when it is so much required for her own benefit, but no! it all goes for a useless war and to keep up the despotism of such a man as the Governor of Timor.

A registered letter addressed to a Hongkong lady staying at Hing Kee's Hotel and containing a \$100 Bank note was lost while in charge of the Post Office here a few days ago.

CANTON NEWS.

[FROM THE "CHUNG NGU SAN PO."]

It is reported that during the late typhoon, which was experienced in Canton and in the surrounding district, over five hundred lives were lost and several hundred junks and other craft capsized. A wall belonging to the prison of Namhoi was blown down, and nine prisoners were killed and three injured. A large junk which was anchored at Tin-tse-ma-tow with two coffins and fifty persons on board was broken into pieces. All on board were drowned. Another junk which left Canton about 5 p.m. foundered at the mouth of the river with all on board. Thirty-five junks which came from Kwangsi with general cargoes on board

foundered in the West river. Fortunately only a few lives were reported lost, all the others being saved and brought down to Canton. The Magistrate of Namhoi gave each of them a dollar as passage-money to return to their native country.

The typhoon was also experienced in a place in Sai-nam where there were a large number of flower boats like those at Canton. The boats were all well lighted with kerosine lamps. Some of the lamps were blown down by a sudden squall, and in consequence a disastrous fire broke out. The number of flower boats was one hundred and twenty, and thirty-six lives were reported lost, while about one hundred persons were injured.

Rumour has been current in Canton that H.E. Tan Chung-lun, Viceroy of Canton, has sent to Peking an application to be allowed to resign.

Two small gunboats carrying five hundred soldiers were despatched the other day to suppress the rebels in Funshah district.

On the 3rd instant the sky was very gloomy and overcast. All the boats sought refuge for fear that another typhoon would approach.

An eating house named Yu-heang inside the city was robbed by about ten robbers, who broke into the house and tied up all the inmates. They did not leave the house till daybreak. They smoked opium in the house and went to the kitchen to cook chow-chow for themselves. They carried away booty to the value of two hundred dollars.

HONGKONG.

Nothing of an unusual character has happened during the past week. On the 5th August the Legislative Council met for the last this session. On Friday evening the prizes time won at the annual carbine competition promoted by the Hongkong Volunteer Corps were distributed at headquarters by Major-General Black, who made a humorous speech. An enjoyable concert followed. On Sunday a strong gale blew over the colony, but fortunately very little damage was done. The heavy rains which have fallen lately have abundantly replenished the reservoirs and we are now practically safe from a water famine.

These were 1,901 visitors to the City Hall Museum last week, of whom 146 were Europeans.

The flooring of a room at 25, Hollywood Road fell in on the 6th August and two women and a girl who were in a cookhouse below were slightly injured.

It is notified that the Queen's exequator has been issued empowering Mr. Bock to act as Consul-General for Sweden and Norway at Hongkong, to reside at Shanghai.

The M.M. steamer *Melbourne*, with the last homeward French mail, after leaving Saigon and when near the mouth of the river, met with an accident to her steering gear, which delayed her forty-eight hours.

The Hupeh dollar has come into circulation, though probably not many of our readers have yet seen it. It is almost a *fac simile* of the Canton dollar except for the name of the province.

Two coolies fought at Quarry Bay on the 5th August and one of them died at his house shortly after from injuries he received. The other coolie is being looked for, as he is wanted on a charge of manslaughter.

On Saturday at the Magistracy a Chinaman was charged before Commander Hastings with obtaining money by false pretences from another Chinaman. The man offered to get the complainant a situation as watchman at the dock and by these representations extracted the sum of \$6 from him. He was sentenced to three months' hard labour.

At the Magistracy on Saturday a coolie was fined \$10 by Commander Hastings for carrying a dead body through the streets. An Indian constable was on duty near the Central Market on Thursday and noticed a ricksha coming along. Something attracted his notice and he went to stop the vehicle when the coolie bolted, leaving the ricksha. It was then found to contain a dead body. The coolie was afterwards arrested, when he stated that a sick man was placed in his ricksha at Ship Street and he was told to take him to the Tung Wah Hospital.

On the 10th August Mr. J. E. Prosser sold by auction the land and houses at 5 to 9, Long On Street, Wanchai, containing 2,750 square feet. The annual rent is \$24, and the upset price was \$2,000. Mr. Tai Yee was the only bidder and the lot was knocked down for \$2,010.

The Hon. Treasurer of the Alice Memorial and Nethersole Hospitals begs to acknowledge with thanks the following donations to the funds of the Hospitals:—

Cheong Tat Ting	\$25
Fong Sien Ting	25
D. F. Tumboly	5
Der A Wing	2

A relief fund is being started for the unfortunate residents of Formosa who have been driven from their homes by the recent disturbances. Difficulty may possibly be experienced in reaching the people, but as the English Presbyterian Mission, which is at work in the country, has volunteered help, it is hoped that this may be done sooner or later.

A very impudent theft was committed on the Praya on the 4th August. A junk was being loaded with cases of lichees when a man quickly picked up one of the cases lying in the road and walked off with it. One of the carrying coolies thought the man was going the wrong way and went and caught him. The Magistrate, Hon. Commander Hastings, yesterday sent the rogue to gaol for six months with hard labour.

It is notified that H.E. the Governor has given his assent, in the name and on behalf of the Queen, to the following Ordinances:—An Ordinance to further amend the Law relating to Widows' and Orphans' Pensions, An Ordinance to regulate the Admiralty practice of the Supreme Court, An Ordinance to amend the Marriage Ordinance, and An Ordinance to alter the titles of Prison Officers employed in this colony.

On Tuesday afternoon Mr. Prosser sold by auction two important lots of Crown land at the north of MacDonnell Road. The lots adjoin each other and the first contains 16,525 square feet, the annual rent being \$124 and the upset price \$1,500. The second lot contains 48,875 square feet, with a rental of \$367. The upset price was \$3,000. Each lot was bought by Hon. E. R. Belilios, who was the only bidder, for \$20 over the upset price.

The cup presented by Mr. John Wallace to the Kowloon Dock Detachment of the H.K.V.C. was shot for on Sunday morning, when Sergeant MacPhail managed to pull it off for the fourth time, with a total of 91. Annexed are a few of the scores:—

	200	400	500	H'cap	Total
Sergt. MacPhail	31	35	25	—	91
Gunner Gilchrist	20	25	21	21	87
Gunner Gow	25	32	33	6	86
Gunner Stewart	28	28	28	—	84
Gunner White	31	28	21	3	83

The 96th birthday of the Rifle Brigade will be celebrated at the Happy Valley on Tuesday, the 25th August, at 4.45 p.m., by the holding of sports. The Brigade was formed in 1800, since which time it has figured very conspicuously in notable campaigns, including the Peninsular war and the battle of Waterloo, and in addition to these great achievements in the field of war the Brigade has won many honours in the field of peace. The programme of sports contains nine events, and there should be a great crowd at the Happy Valley next Tuesday week to wish our soldiers many happy returns of the day.

Lai Mit, the murderer of a Chinese policeman in Chuk Hing Lane a few weeks ago, was tried at Nam Tau on Sunday afternoon by the district magistrate. Inspectors Stanton and Quincey attended the trial, which was of course conducted in the usual Chinese fashion. The murderer was heavily chained round the neck and arms, and on being asked if he committed the murder he said he did not. The magistrate then produced the prisoner's statement when he was arrested, the murdered man's depositions, the revolver, the bullet which had been extracted from the body, and gave orders for the torturing instruments to be brought forward. Several witnesses were examined and finally the culprit admitted his guilt, and after a long lecture by the magistrate he was taken away. The date of the execution, which will take place at Kowloon City, has not yet been fixed.

In concluding a notice of the Governor's despatch on the Hongkong Blue Book for 1895 the *N. C. Daily News*:—And when Sir William reaches the higher post to which he may well look forward he will still, we hope, look back with pleasure to his official life in Hongkong, and he will be able to feel, as he contemplates the colony's advance in wealth and prosperity, that a fair proportion of it is due to his own intelligent administration.

The following returns of the average amount of bank notes in circulation and of specie in reserve in Hongkong, during the month ended 31st July, 1896, as certified by the Managers of the respective Banks, are published:—

Banks.	Average amount.	Specie in reserve.
Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China...	\$1,856,748	\$1,000,000
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.	4,632,672	2,500,000
National Bank of China, Limited	375,976	285,000

Total ... \$6,865,396 \$3,785,000

A reminiscence of a wreck cropped up at the Police Court on Tuesday. In October, 1894, the *Bellona* struck on the Pratas shoal and copper of the value of \$150,000 was stolen from the vessel by looting fishermen. The copper was sent to various places, including Singapore, Macao, and Hoihow, and the police in Hongkong were asked to warn dealers not to receive any of the property. On Monday Inspector Stanton received information that four ingots of copper were in a dealer's shop in Cheung Tsau Lane and on going there he found that the metal was part of the cargo stolen from the vessel. The master of the shop said he received the ingots from a firm in Hoihow, which was true, but as he ought not to have entered into any transaction with the copper he was summoned and fined \$5.

Two Artillerymen named W. Samuel and T. Burke had an eventful experience during the gale on Sunday. In the afternoon they took out a boat from Stonecutters' Island, where they are stationed, intending to go for an hour's row. At ten o'clock at night, when the roll call was made, the men did not answer and it was naturally concluded that they had been capsized and drowned during the storm. The police were informed and nothing was heard of the missing ones until Monday evening when they returned to Stonecutters' Island. They stated that the wind and heavy sea carried them up the Canton river and they managed to reach the mainland after considerable difficulty. A few hours' later they succeeded in inducing some junk people to take them on board, and it may be imagined that the soldiers were much relieved when they saw Stonecutters' Island again.

On Thursday night a Russian electrician named Kodzkie, who has a somewhat curious history, attempted to commit suicide by shooting himself in a room at 60, Queen's Road Central. About 7.30 the occupants of the room above were startled by hearing the report of a revolver shot and on rushing downstairs they heard a second report. Kodzkie's room was entered and he was found lying insensible on the floor, a small six-chambered revolver lying about three yards away from him. The police were called and the man, who had shot himself in the head, was removed to the Government Civil Hospital. His recovery is probable. He has had a good deal of trouble lately, and it is thought that the worry unhinged his mind. He is a native of Warsaw, and while there he was a strong supporter of the revolutionary party and advanced his cause by singing revolutionary songs. Some years ago he, as a conscript, was called up for drill and it was then decided to send him to Siberia. When his period of excommunication expired it was thought better to detain him longer. But somehow he made his way to Vladivostok and from there he came to Hongkong on a Russian man-of-war a few months ago. He deserted, hid himself in Hongkong, and successfully eluded the Russian officials, and he has remained here since. That is his own story. According to the story of another Russian in the colony, Kodzkie deserted from Vladivostok, obtained a sergeant's uniform, tore the stripes off, and then made his way to Hongkong. The man's own version is considered to be the truth.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Shanghai Municipality has engaged several nurses at home, who are now on their way out. They are to be called Municipal nurses and they will be available for engagement by persons requiring their services about the 1st October.

A new evening paper is to be started at Shanghai next month, the sole proprietor and editor being Mr. W. H. Smith, late managing editor of the *Japan Gazette*. It is reported also that a new morning paper, to be established by a syndicate, will make its appearance in a few weeks.

At Shanghai on the morning of the 5th inst. eight houses in an alleyway off the Tsungming Road, Hongkew, were completely destroyed by fire, and several others were badly damaged by fire and water. The buildings, which are owned by Messrs. E. D. Sassoon and Co., were insured, but the contents of five of the houses were uninsured.

A sad fatality occurred on the Soochow Creek at Shanghai on the evening of the 6th August. Messrs. Bauerfeind and Staats obtained single scullers from the Upper Boathouse and proceeded for a row on the Creek. After going some little distance up the Creek, Mr. Staats, who was behind, heard cries and turning round saw that Mr. Bauerfeind's skiff had capsized, and that the unfortunate gentleman, who was unable to swim, was struggling in the water. Mr. Staats at once jumped overboard and swam to his assistance, but before he could reach the spot Mr. Bauerfeind sank. Mr. Staats dived several times, but without success, and was obliged to give up the attempt to save Mr. Bauerfeind's life or recover his body. The body was found the following afternoon, quite close to where the deceased gentleman sank. He was only twenty-three years old, and was an only son, a brother having been previously killed in an accident.—*N. C. Daily News*.

A pretty severe shock of earthquake made itself evident at Tientsin on the 22nd July about 8.52 p.m. A tremor, accompanied by a rumbling or grating noise as if a large quantity of bricks had been shot from carts, was, after an interval of two seconds, followed by a very distinct earth oscillation which lasted for two or three seconds. There was, of course, the usual discrepancy of observation sensation, &c., those who missed it putting it down to fancy, &c., People upstairs of course got the greatest fright, and those who happened to be on a modern iron bedstead (a capital device for magnifying the vibration) thought something serious was under weigh. The shock was the most severe that has been felt here since 1888. Many people are sceptical about this great alluvial plain being an earthquake district at all. We can only assure them that:—(1) It is distinctly marked as seismic in all the best physical geography atlases. (2) Peking, last century, was destroyed by an earthquake. (3) That volcanic rocks can be met within 100 miles. Our object, however, is not to alarm our timid readers so much as to persuade the sceptical of incontrovertible facts.—*Peking and Tientsin Times*.

Dr. Sanger, the well-known dental surgeon at Shanghai, has for some time been the victim of a systematic course of robbery, but until yesterday (26th July) he was utterly puzzled to find the perpetrator. For several months he noticed that silver and gold alloys and his valuable instruments were diminishing from his stock, while others of his working instruments were more or less damaged. A few days ago he found a quantity of gold alloy laid aside, but his two native servants denied all knowledge of it. One of them was dismissed subsequently. Yesterday, when Dr. Sanger went unexpectedly to his office, to his astonishment he found a couple of Chinese women seated in his chairs and his "boy" dexterously working away at a la Sanger, busily engaged in filling the teeth of a handsome Chinese woman. The doctor was wild, but not wishing to be hard on the precocious and impudent impostor, asked him politely whether it was he who had stolen the alloys and others things, besides damaging the instruments. The discomfited amateur dentist, adroitly denied doing anything and "no saved" everything. He was consequently marched off to the Central Police Station. His relatives have offered to compensate the doctor for the loss.—*China Gazette*.

COMMERCIAL.

TEA.

CANTON, 11th August.—Macao Congous.—Business during the fortnight, has been very much restricted, owing principally to want of supplies, the boats being prevented from coming down from the country by heavy weather. Settlements are reported at 1,000 boxes only, at Tls. 11-16 per picul, shewing no change.

Scented Caper.—There has been considerably more doing during the past fortnight, settlements amounting to 26,000 boxes at Tls. 9½-23 per picul, making a total of 126,000 boxes, against 150,000 boxes to the same time last year. The kinds most in demand are Common and Medium, which mark a distinct rise, and cannot now be bought except at an advance of Tl. 1 per picul (for medium), on prices ruling three weeks ago. Scenting flower, though not plentiful, is now in better supply.

SHANGHAI, 7th August.—(From Messrs. Welch, Lewis & Co.'s circular).—London deliveries of China Congou for July were 1,980,000 lbs. against 2,438,000 lbs. for corresponding month last year. "Type" quality is quoted at 4½d. a lb., against 5½d. at same date last year. Calcutta telegrams give export to London for July 15 millions, or the same as last year. Estimated total for the season is 126 millions. Hankow advices report second crop practically finished, showing a decrease of about 150,000 half-chests compared with the yield of previous year, and the third crop would probably not reach 30,000 half-chests, against 80,000 half-chests last year. The decrease in the two crops will be fully 200,000 half-chests. In this market a small business has been passing in Teas from Tls. 13 to 15 a picul, and the greater portion of the settlements are intended for shipments to America. Tea-men are not so firm in their demands, though no quotable decline has yet taken place.

Settlements reported are:—
Ningchow, 1,097 ½-chts. at Tls. 14.00 to 17.00 a picul.
Kutoan ... 627 " " 13.00 to 13.50 "
Hohow ... 60 " " 13.50 "
Wenchow ... 281 " " shipped
Oonam ... 301 " " 11.25 "

Total ... 2,366 ½-chests.

Green Teas.—Ping-ueys.—There is no change to report. Tea-men will offer their Teas for sale during the coming week; their latest move is to limit the quantity to be brought to market this season to 120,000 half-chests. With the best intentions possible we doubt the ability of any set of men to limit supplies if prices will leave a margin of profit to producers, and the size of the crop will depend more on prices than on promises.

Local Packs and Wenchows are in no demand. The absence of quality in water of the latest arrivals is very marked.

Countries Teas.—Moyunes have arrived freely during the past few days, and have received the full attention of buyers: they bear out first impressions and as a crop they are more fragrant, and superior in drawing qualities to the average of late years: they stand away from any other Teas of the season in these respects. Prices have been very irregular, but inclined to become firmer as sales progressed. The Tienkai is an unattractive crop, plain in water and appearance and likely to deteriorate quickly owing to their being too lightly fired. Fychows have been dealt in at about previous prices.

Hysons.—After touching Tls. 40 a picul for "choies" Moyune the market became quiet, and in some cases three taels a picul decline has been accepted.

Settlements reported since 24th ult:—
Moyune ... 6,953 ½-chts. at Tls. 15.75 to 30.00 a picul.
Tienkai ... 7,083 " " 16.00 to 30.00 "
Fychow ... 4,014 " " 13.50 to 19.00 "
Local P'ked. 700 " " 17.50 to 22.15 "

Total ... 18,750 ½-chts.

Total settlements from opening of the market to date:—

1896 to 1897.		1895 to 1896.	
Settlements.	Stock.	Settlements.	Stock.
½-chts.	½-chts.	½-chts.	½-chts.
Pingauy ... None	43,405	against	89,863
Moyune ... 8,087			14,434
Tienkai ... 8,797	15,423		15,924
Fychow ... 8,586			8,605
Local packed ... 4,810	1,922		10,156
			1,270

Total ... 30,280 ... 65,755 against 138,933 ... 46,237

Total arrivals to date are:—96,035 half-chests, against 185,209 half-chests to same date last year.

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO GREAT BRITAIN

	1896-97	1895-96
	lbs.	lbs.
Canton and Macao ...	2,341,591	3,350,509
Shanghai and Hankow ...	12,742,590	12,975,009
Foochow ...	5,976,756	7,509,809
	21,060,537	23,835,327

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1896-97	1895-96
	lbs.	lbs.
Shanghai ...	2,089,241	10,364,488
Amoy ...	3,099,777	5,023,581
Foochow ...	1,131,222	1,608,212
	7,220,240	16,996,281

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO ODESSA.

	1896-97	1895-96
	lbs.	lbs.
Shanghai and Hankow ...	18,803,398	26,706,212

EXPORT OF TEA FROM JAPAN TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1896-97	1895-96
	lbs.	lbs.
Yokohama ...	12,567,287	18,776,559
Kobe ...	3,180,870	6,007,903
	15,748,157	24,784,462

SILK.

CANTON, 12th July.—The 4th crop has been partially damaged on account of bad weather and is reported to be 40 per cent. short. As far as can be judged from arrivals up to date the quality of the silk is satisfactory. As expected, cocoons rule higher and the cost of 4th crop silk will be about \$30 to \$50 per picul higher than the 3rd crop. Tsatlees.—Have continued in active demand for Bombay. Re-reels.—Prices remain steady with no business doing. Filatures.—The last few days there has been more activity and the demand from Lyons has improved. Prices are firm and hardening in view of the higher cost of 4th crop silk. From settlements reported we quote \$600 for Kwong Shun Cheong 10/12, \$595/85 for Miu King Lun 11/13 and 13/15, \$565 for Wing Hing Lun 13/15, \$540 for Kwong Lun Hing 13/15, \$497½ for Wong Yuk Kee 13/15. Waste.—About 1,000 bales have been settled this fortnight at subjoined prices. Stocks.—Tsatlees, 1,500 bales; Filature, 3,000 bales. We append quotations in Canton, with laying down cost in London. Exchange 6 months' sight 2¼ per Dollar:—

Tsatlees	No. 1	\$430	= 8/2
	No. 2	\$415	= 7/1½
	No. 3	\$400	= 7/8
	No. 4	\$385	= 7/5
	No. 4½	\$380	= 7/3½
	No. 5	\$370	= 7/1½
Filature 1st class	11/13...	\$59 to \$580	
1st "	13/15...	\$590 to \$580	
2nd "	9/11...	\$90 to \$580	
2nd "	10/12...	\$575 to \$585	
2nd "	13/15...	\$560	
2nd "	10/12...	\$550 to \$560	
3rd "	11/13	\$480 to \$465	
3rd "	13/15...	\$480 to \$465	

Long-reels Suilam ... \$370

Re-reels Lacklow No. 1 \$480

No. 2 \$465

No. 3 \$450

No. 4 \$430

Mahang ... No. 1 \$430

Punjam Books No. 1 & 2 \$120

No. 3 & 4 \$73

Punjam Waste ... \$63

Steam Waste Extra ... \$90

Market Extra ... \$72

No. 1 ... \$53

Gum Waste No. 2 ... \$50

Re-reel Waste ... \$80

Pierced Cocoons ... \$60

Settlements for the fortnight:—

1896-97. 1895-96.

For Europe ... 1,200 bales 1,500 bales.

For America ... 100 " 250 "

For Bombay ... 200 " 230 "

[& 100 piculs. [& 50 piculs.

SHANGHAI, 7th August.—(From Mr. A. B. Burkill's circular).—London advices are unaltered. "Market quiet, Gold Killings 8/4½. Blue Elephant's 10/6." Raw Silk.—The positions unchanged, very small settlements and no enquiry to speak of for any description. Holders are becoming uneasy at the lack of orders or counter-offers and would meet the market if there were any signs that

small concessions would bring about business. The outlook, however, is not encouraging; consumption for the first half of 1896 compares very unfavourably with the figures for 1895, and the total production of silk this season is more than adequate for all requirements. French and Italian filatures are meeting the market freely, and Canton has also been a free seller from the opening of the season. Treaties.—About 100 bales have changed hands at quotations. The quotation of Tls. 316½ for Gold Killing is for old silk. Taysams.—About 150 bales Kahings (White and Green) and Skeins are reported settled. Arrivals, as per Customs Returns from 30th July to 4th August are, 836 bales White, 9 piculs Yellow, and 37 piculs Wild Silks. The Export of Steam Filatures to date is:—To London 2 bales, Continent 372 bales, and America 127 bales. Waste Silks.—No transactions. Arrivals small. Pongees.—1,000 pieces of 21/22in. by 70 yds. by 56 oz. picked over goods are reported sold at Tls. 13½.

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO EUROPE.

	1896-97	1895-96
	bales.	bales.
Canton	6,253	3,474
Shanghai	5,483	13,808
Yokohama	119	1,262
	11,910	18,544

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO AMERICA.

	1896-97	1895-96
	bales.	bales.
Canton	492	2,907
Shanghai	266	2,036
Yokohama	151	2,473
	909	7,416

Hongkong, 12th August.—Arrivals have been small and the market is firmer. Quotations for Formosa are \$17.50 to \$18.00. During the past week sales have been 15 piculs.

SUGAR.

Hongkong, 12th August.—There is rather a better feeling in the market and prices are advancing. Following are the quotations:—Sheklong, No. 1, White, \$7.23 to 7.25 per picul. do. " 2, White, 6.56 to 6.58 " Sheklong, No. 1, Brown, 4.47 to 4.50 " do. " 2, Brown, 4.30 to 4.32 " Swatow, No. 1, White, 7.12 to 7.14 " do. " 2, White, 6.47 to 6.50 " Swatow, No. 1, Brown, 4.42 to 4.45 " do. " 2, Brown, 4.27 to 4.30 " Soochow Sugar Candy, 10.77 to 10.89 " Sheklong " 9.32 to 9.35 "

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

The steamer *Balmoral*, Hongkong to London, 1st August, took:—33 cases Cassia Oil, 132 cases Waste Silk, 10 cases Waste Silk, and 85 bales Feathers; for Antwerp:—27 packages Bamboo Scraps; for Marseilles:—15 packages; for Colombo:—22 packages Rattan Chairs.

The steamer *Pyrchus*, Hongkong to London, 1st August, took:—1,174 boxes Tea (\$7,650 lbs. Congou and scented Cypri), 2 cases Silk, 50 bales Waste Silk, 35 cases Vermilion, 9 cases Essential Oil, 298 cases Chinaware, 7 cases Cigars, 17 cases Palm Leaf Fans, 8 cases Bambooware, 3 cases Gongs, 7 cases Preserves, 88 packages M. O. P. Shells, 81 bales Canes, 15 cases Flasks, and 19 packages Sundries; for London option Manchester:—150 bales Waste Silk; for Liverpool:—250 bales Hemp, and 10 cases Cigars.

The steamer *Osborne*, Hongkong to Colombo, 5th August, took:—1,700 bags Sugar; for Bombay:—1,252 cases Firecrackers.

The steamer *Ernest Simons*, Hongkong to France, 5th August, took:—261 bales Raw Silk, 9 cases Silk Piece Goods, 4 cases Bristles, 187 packages Tea, 90 packages Canes, 18 packages Hair, and 6 packages Earthenware; for London:—1 case Silk Piece Goods.

OPIMUM.

Hongkong, 12th August.—Bengal.—The demand has continued and prices have further improved, quotations closing at \$720 for New Patna, \$722½ for Old Patna, and \$735 for New and Old Benares.

Malwa.—New has receded, while old has slightly improved in value, the market closing steady at the following quotations:—

N. w. 730 with allance of 3½ to 5 cts.
Old (2½ yrs.) \$750 " 0 to 3 "
Old (7½ yrs.) \$770 " ½ to 2 "
Persian.—There has not been any noteworthy change in prices during the interval, business having been very m. agr. Latest figures are \$550 to \$590 for Oily, and \$560 to \$640 for Paper-wrapped drug according to quality.
To-day's stocks are estimated as under:—
New Patna 2,210 chests.
Old Patna 190 "
New Benares 180 "
Old Benares 32 "
Malwa 280 "
Persian 76 "

COURSE OF THE HONGKONG OPIUM MARKET.

DATE.	PATNA.		BENARES.		MALWA.	
	New.	Old.	New.	Old.	New.	Old.
1896.	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Aug. 5.	705	715	720	720	730	750/770
Aug. 6.	711½	716½	722½	722½	730	750/770
Aug. 7.	710	720	725	725	730	750/770
Aug. 8.	715	725	727½	727½	730	750/770
Aug. 9.	720	725	730	730	730	750/770
Aug. 10.	720	725	730	730	730	750/770
Aug. 11.	720	725	732½	732½	730	750/770
Aug. 12.	720	722½	735	735	730	750/770

COTTON.

Hongkong, 12th August.—Up to within the last two days, prices for Cotton remained stationary, but on receipt of telegraphic news that the American crop is expected to be unfavourable importers here are holding for higher prices. Stock: Bengal, 2,000 bales.

Bombay	\$12.50 to 15.50 p. pl.
Kurrachee	12.00 to 15.00 "
Bengal, Rangoon, and Dacca	14.80 to 15.75 "
Shanghai and Japanese ..	17.00 to 19.00 "
Tungchow and Ningpo ..	17.00 to 19.00 "
Madras	12.50 to 15.50 "
Sales: 700 bales Bengal, Rangoon, and Dacca.	

RICE.

Hongkong, 12th August.—The market is stronger than last reported. Closing quotations are:—

Saigon, Ordinary	per picul.
Round, good quality	\$2.23 to 2.25
Long	2.52 to 2.54
Siam, Field, mill cleaned, No. 2 ..	2.65 to 2.68
Garden, " No. 1 ..	2.26 to 2.28
White	2.74 to 2.76
Fine Cargo	2.97 to 3.00
	3.34 to 3.36

COALS.

Hongkong, 12th August.—Market very quiet. Very small business reported. Quotations are:—
Austrian 6.50 to — ex ship, nominal
White 5.60 to 5.75 ex ship, nominal
M. Small 4.65 to — ex ship, do
Moit Lump 4.25 to 5.50 ex ship, nominal.

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

Hongkong, 12th August.—Amongst the sales reported are the following:—

YARN AND PIECE GOODS:—Bombay Yarn.—1,025 bales No. 10 at \$71.00 to \$78.50, 380 bales No. 12 at \$76 to \$80, 265 bales No. 16 at \$79 to \$88, 610 bales No. 20 at \$91 to \$95.50. Grey Shirtings.—84 pieces 8½ lbs. Red Joss at \$2.55, 600 pieces 8½ lbs. 3 Dots at \$2.87½, 250 pieces 10 lbs. Blue 7 Boys at \$3.15, 1,200 pieces 8½ lbs. Blue Peach at \$2.75, 600 pieces 8½ lbs. Snake and Elephant at \$2.71, 1,600 pieces 1½ lbs. Large Eagle at \$1.30, 1,500 pieces 10 lbs. Blue 5 Men at \$3.70, 3,000 pieces 8½ lbs. Blue Joss Bat \$2.85, 900 pieces 8½ lbs. Blue Lion at \$2.5. White Shirtings.—750 pieces O. at \$4.25, 2,500 pieces S. Q. at \$4.07½, 1,000 pieces S. S. at \$4.30, 500 pieces D. 70 at \$3.35, 1,000 pieces Flower at \$4.57½. T. Cloths.—375 pieces 7 lbs. Mexican Gold Dragon at \$2.20, 750 pieces 7 lbs. Mexican Blue Dragon at \$2.20, 1,500 pieces 8 lbs. Mexican Hunter and Stag C. C. at \$2.95, 300 pieces 7 lbs. Mexican V. V. at \$2.82½, 1,850 pieces 6 lbs. Bombay at \$1.55, 300 pieces 8 lbs. Mexican V. V. at \$2.82½, 4,500 pieces 7 lbs. Red Stag at \$2.25, 375 pieces 7 lbs. Mexican Blue Dragon at \$2.20, 750 pieces 7 lbs. Gold Dragon at \$2.20, 750 pieces 7 lbs. Silver Pheasant at \$1.75. Drills.—150 pieces 16 lbs. Large Eagle at \$3.15, 200 pieces 15 lbs. D. 9 at \$4.15. Turkey Reds.—500 pieces 1½ lbs. Fluteman at \$1.30, 150 pieces 4 lbs. Fluteman at \$2.57½, 250 pieces 4½ lbs. Fluteman at \$2.80, 350 pieces 6 lbs. Fluteman at \$3.55. Spanish Stripes.—120 pieces Red Dragon at \$0.54.

METALS:—Tin.—100 slabs Poongchai at \$33.10. Quicksilver.—50 flasks at \$100.

SHANGHAI, 7th August.—(From Messrs. Noel, Murray & Co.'s Piece Goods Trade report.)—There is a much better feeling in the market generally, and a fair business has been done in spot cargo and for near arrival, but the more forward transactions have been limited owing to the rise that has taken place in the home markets. Late advices show that the Manchester market has advanced some two pence or three pence. This no doubt is caused by the excitement that is at present ruling the Liverpool market, and it is difficult for us to give any authentic quotation for cotton, as no reliable information has come to hand during the week. It is, however, generally understood that a considerable advance has taken place, and that the price of cotton to-day is 4d., or even higher. Recent mail advices have been so unanimous in speaking of the favourable conditions and prospects of the cotton crop that it seems unlikely a "blight to the crop" is responsible for the present movement and it is more than probable that the cause will eventually be traced to speculation. This movement comes at rather an unfortunate time as dealers have been withholding their orders for the Spring trade in the hope of getting in at lower rates, which they were led to expect would follow the recent estimates placed before them of a full cotton crop. News this week from the Northern markets are rather better, particularly from Tientsin, where there is an improved demand for the commoner qualities of 8.4-lbs. Grey Shirting and 6½-reed White Shirtings. There is no change to report from either the River or Ningpo markets.

Metals.—(From Messrs. Alex. Biefield & Co.'s report.—7th August:—One week succeeds another without business exhibiting any marked improvement. On every side the one complaint is of the dullness and slackness of trade. The monthly figures of Exports and Imports of Metals, etc., are not very encouraging; the only lines showing the effect of a fair demand being Galvanised Iron, and some few leading items in Old Scrap Iron, such as Horse-shoes, Tyres, etc. During the last week or two no contracts have been booked for New Metals; Lead and Nailrods continuing neglected, as recently reported. A lot of Bar Croppings (spot) were sold at about 85/ c.i.f., and some small lots of Rod Iron, Staffordshire, have been hooked. The most interesting news is perhaps the arrival, a week ago, of some 400 tons of Bar and Rod Iron from the Hanyang Iron Works, near Hankow, the first production of Chang Chih-tung's venture. It has been placed in native hands to sell on behalf of the Ironworks, the quality is said to be fairly good, but the only test in China is in the using and one will be better able to report on that in a few months' time. At present coke and transport are expensive items, and these are again the cause of Hanyang, both of which obstacles are being overcome by railways and mining.

CLOSING QUOTATIONS.

WEDNESDAY, 12th August.
EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON.—

Telegraphic Transfer	2/2
Bank Bills, on demand	2/2
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	2/2½
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	2/2½
Credits, at 4 months' sight	2/2½
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	2/2½

ON PARIS.—

Bank Bills, on demand	2.74
Credits, at 4 months' sight	2.78

ON GERMANY.—

On demand	2.21
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ON NEW YORK.—

Bank Bills, on demand	52½
Credits, 60 days' sight	54½

ON BOMBAY.—

Telegraphic Transfer	184
Bank, on demand	184½

ON CALCUTTA.—

Telegraphic Transfer	184
Bank, on demand	184½

ON SHANGHAI.—

Bank, at sight	72½
Private, 30 days' sight	73½

ON YOKOHAMA.—

On demand	½ % pm
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ON MANILA.—

On demand	16 % pm
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ON SINGAPORE.—

On demand	½ % pm
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SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate

GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael

JOINT STOCK SHARES.

HONGKONG, 12th August.—The market has ruled in a somewhat unsettled state during the week under review and, although orders were fairly plentiful, actual business (both buying and selling) has been difficult to negotiate at ruling rates.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai in the early part of the week changed hands at 194 and later at 193½, 193, 192, and 191 per cent. prem., closing with sellers at the last rate; a few forward transactions chiefly for October and November at about equivalent rates are reported. Nationals continue on offer at \$28 without finding buyers.

MARINE INSURANCES.—An order from the North for a fair number of shares suddenly caused China Traders to rise and sales were effected at \$79, \$79½, and \$80, and we hear of an offer of \$80½. Unions, Cantons, and all other Marines have ruled neglected with some small sales at quotations.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkong Fires, after further small sales at \$330 and \$331, were jumped to \$335, at which rate a few shares changed hands; at time of writing shares are obtainable at \$334. Chinas have been very quiet with sellers at \$95 and small sales for cash.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton, and Macao have been in fair demand at increasing rates and we have to report sales at \$32½, \$33, \$33½, and \$33½, market closing with buyers at \$33½ and sellers at \$33½. Indo-Chinas have continued quiet and more or less neglected on the downward grade, shares offered at \$51 and \$50 failing to find buyers, although shares changed hands in Shanghai at these rates; at time of writing the market seems a little steadier with sales and buyers at \$50. Douglases have ruled quiet with a few sales at \$64½ and \$65, closing with buyers at the latter rate. China and Manilas have been pretty freely offered at \$72 and \$71, but no buyers come forward, and this notwithstanding that Hongkong has at length been declared a clean port by the authorities and the vexatious quarantine regulations at Manila will now in all probability be withdrawn. China Mutuals continue on offer in small lots without meeting with buyers.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars have ruled much firmer, buyers offering \$106, \$107, \$108, and \$109, without bringing out any shares; at time of writing shares could probably be placed at the last rate. Luzons have declined to \$66 with sales and have ruled weak at that rate all the week; shares are still obtainable at the rate.

MINING.—Punjoms have continued very quiet pending the result of the Cyanide clean up, which is not yet in; small sales at \$14 and \$14½ are all we have to report. Raubs could be placed in fair lots at \$5½, but we have heard of no sales and the rate must be quoted higher i.e., \$5.35. Balmorals and Olivers appear to have quite fallen out of the market; we have heard of no transactions in them for some weeks. Jebebus have ruled neglected and quiet with no sales.

DOCKS, WHARVES, AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks after ruling steady for the greater part of the week have eased up a little and sales have been effected at 193½ per cent. prem. for cash. On time shares have changed hands at 195 and 194½ for 31st inst., 200 for 31st December, and 204 for 28th February. Market close quiet at quotation. The Company has received a telegram from the Admiralty informing them that the new proposed Admiralty dock, concerning which negotiations have been going on for some months, will not be required. Kowloon Wharves, after publication of the intention to pay a half-yearly dividend of 5 per cent. (per annum), have gone out of favour and offers to sell at \$55 and \$54½ have met with no response. Wanchais have been quiet with sellers at \$45 and no sales.

LANDS, HOTELS, AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands have further improved their position with sales at \$75 and \$75½, closing with probable sellers at the former rate. Hotels after sales at \$29 and \$30 continue on offer at the latter rate. West Points have ruled firmer and \$18 would probably be paid for shares if any were forthcoming. Humphreys have changed hands at \$9 and close with sellers at that rate.

MISCELLANEOUS.—A. S. Watsons have been enquired for at \$12.50, but holders ask \$13, and we have heard of no sales. Electricians have been in some demand and have changed hands at \$6.80, \$6.85, and \$6.95, closing steady. Ropes have been negotiated at \$125 and Fenwicks at \$27 and \$27½.

Closing quotations are as follow:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Banks—		[\$363.75, sales
Hongkong & S'hai...	\$125	191 p. ct. prem.==
China & Japan, prf.	£5	nominal
Do. ordinary...	£1 10s.	nominal
Do. deferred...	£1	£2, buyers
Natl. Bank of China		
B. Shares	£8	\$28, sellers
Founders Shares...	£1	\$100
Bell's Asbestos E. A. ...	15s.	\$7, sellers
Brown & Co., H. G. ...	\$50	\$6, seller
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$6
Carmichael & Co.	\$20	\$8
China Sugar	\$100	\$108, buyers
Dakin, Cruick's & Co.	\$5	\$1, buyers
Dairy Farm Co.	\$10	\$5
Fenwick & Co., Geo. ...	\$25	\$27½, sales & sellers
Green Island Cement...	\$10	\$17½, sales
H. & China Bakery ...	\$50	\$30
Hongkong & C. Gas ...	£10	\$110, buyers
Hongkong Electric ...	\$8	\$6.95, buyers
H. H. L. Tramways ...	\$100	\$96
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$30, sales & sellers
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$106
H. & K. Wharf & G. ...	\$50	\$55, sales & sellers
Hongkong Rope	\$50	\$125, sales
H. & W. Dock	\$125	193½ p. ct. prem.==
Insurances—		[\$366.87½, sales
Canton	\$50	\$200, sellers
China Fire	\$50	\$9½, sales & sellers
China Traders'	\$25	\$80½, sales & buyers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$33½, sellers
North-China	£25	Tls. 190, sellers
Straits	\$20	\$27, buyers
Union	\$25	\$23½, sellers
Yangtze	\$60	\$145
Land and Building—		
H. Land Investment...	\$50	\$7½, sales
Humphreys Estate...	\$10	\$9, sales & sellers
Kowloon Land & B. ...	\$30	\$17
West Point Building	\$40	\$18
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$66, sales & sellers
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 500	72½
Jebebu	\$5	\$2.90
New Balmoral	\$3	\$2.50, sellers
Oliver's Mines, A. ...	\$5	\$7, sellers
Do. B. ...	\$2½	\$3.50, sellers
Punjom	\$4	\$14.25, sales
Do. Preference...	\$1	\$3.70
Raubs	13s. 10d.	\$5.35
Steamship Coys.—		
China and Manila ...	\$50	\$71, sellers
China Mutual Ord...	£5	£3, sellers
Do. Preference...	£10	£8 10, sales & sellers
Douglas S. S. Co. ...	\$50	\$65, sales & buyers
H. Canton and M. ...	\$15	\$33.50, sal. & sellers
Indo-China S. N. ...	£10	\$50½, sales & sellers
Wanchai Warehouse Co.	\$37½	\$45, sellers
Watson & Co., A. S. ...	\$10	\$12.50, sal. & buyers

CHATER & VERNON, Share Brokers.

SHANGHAI, 7th August.—(From Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s report.)—Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.—Shares have been in demand during the week, and business has been done at 190 to 192 per cent. premium for cash, and to Hongkong at 192 to 194 per cent. premium. On time, shares were sold at 194 for August delivery, and at 195 for delivery on the 10th September. National Bank shares are offering at \$28½. There is no business to report in Bank of China and Japan shares. Shipping.—Indo-China S. N. Co. shares have been placed at Tls. 37 cash and Tls. 38 for delivery on the 31st current. There are cash sellers at Tls. 37. China Mutual Ordinary shares, with £5 paid up, are offering. Docks.—On account of anticipated opposition, shares in S. C. Farnham & Co. have been sold at Tls. 200, and there are shares offering at Tls. 2½ for the end of August. The prospectus of the Shanghai Engineering Ship-Building and Dock Co., Ltd. has been issued. The capital is Tls. 750,000 in 7,500 shares of Tls. 100 each, of which 200 will be Founders' shares. The share list for Shanghai will close on the 17th current, and on the 25th for the outports. Marine Insurance.—North China Insurance shares have been parted with at Tls. 190. Yangtze's have been sold at \$142½ and \$145 for cash. A number of Straits Insurance shares have been placed to Hongkong at \$27, and locally at the same rate. Fire Insurance.—There is no business reported. Chinas are wanted at \$9½. Wharves.—Shanghai

and Hongkew Wharf shares have changed hands at Tls. 125 and Tls. 122½. Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown shares are wanted in Hongkong at \$54½. Mining.—Punjom Mining shares were placed to Hongkong at \$14, and Raub Australian G. M. shares at \$54. Cargo Boats.—The Shanghai Cargo Boat Co. paid an interim dividend of 7 per cent. on the 5th instant, and the Cooperative Co. paid a similar dividend of 5 per cent. on the same date. Sugars.—Perak Sugar Cultivation shares were placed, and are offering, at Tls. 4½. China Sugar Refining shares were sold at \$105 cash, and \$108 for delivery on the 31st current. Lands.—Shanghai Land Investment shares changed hands at Tls. 78. Hongkong Land Investment shares are wanted at Tls. 74. Industrial.—Major Bros. shares were placed at Tls. 42½, and Ewo Cotton S. & W. shares at Tls. 85. Miscellaneous.—Shanghai Gas Co.—The new shares have been issued. Shares have been sold at Tls. 206. Shanghai-Sumatra Tobacco shares have been placed at Tls. 95 cash and Tls. 97 for the 31st current, and Shanghai-Langkai shares at Tls. 600. The shareholders in this Company have resolved to increase the capital to Tls. 400,000 in 4,000 shares at Tls. 100 each. Of these 400 will be given to the holders of the 10 Founders' shares, which will be cancelled. Only 3,980 shares will be issued, the registered owner of each share receiving a new share at Tls. 100. Hall & Holtz shares have been in demand, and have been placed at \$35 to \$37½.

TONNAGE.

HONGKONG, 12th August.—During the first half of the period under review business was almost stagnant, but in the last week or so trade seems to have revived somewhat and several settlements have been effected. From Saigon to Hongkong, although there is still hardly any enquiry, rates seem inclined to advance and one fixture at 6½ cents is reported. To Sourabaya, two medium-sized steamers have been fixed at 17 cents, but there does not seem to be much further enquiry. From Bangkok there is no enquiry for tonnage. Japan coal freights have been fairly active, but rates remain very poor. To Hongkong the rate has declined to \$1.10 and further tonnage is obtainable at this rate. To Singapore the rate remains at \$1.75. From Moji to Saigon one charter has been effected at \$2.35. From Iloilo to this there has been some enquiry and tonnage has been offered at 11 cents. From Newchwang to Canton there is nothing doing. In sailing tonnage there is nothing fresh to report for New York loading, but for San Francisco a part cargo has been fixed at a very good rate.

There are six vessels disengaged in port, registering 7,172 tons:

The following are the settlements:—

Sulej—British ship, 1,672 tons, Hongkong to San Francisco, 1,500 tons, gold \$5,000.
Fooking Suey—Hawaiian barque, 1,036 tons, Hongkong to Callao, £1,300.
Ariake Maru—Japanese steamer, 1,905 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$1.10 per ton.
Kachidate Maru—Japanese steamer, 2,093 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$1.10 per ton.
Shirley—British steamer, 1,889 tons, Moji to Singapore, \$1.75 per ton.
Glenorchy—British steamer, 1,822 tons, Moji to Singapore, \$1.75 per ton.
Nanshan—British steamer, 1,344 tons, Moji to Saigon (part cargo), \$2.35 per ton.
Falkenberg—German steamer, 1,175 tons, Newchwang to Amoy, \$3.0.0.
Martha—German steamer, 1,560 tons, Saigon to Sourabaya, 17 cents per picul.
Orono—British steamer, 1,329 tons, Saigon to Sourabaya, 17 cents per picul.
China—German steamer, 1,093 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 6½ cents per picul.
Cosmopolit—German steamer, 671 tons, Iloilo to Hongkong, \$2,000.
Tancred—Norwegian steamer, 786 tons, Iloilo to Yokohama, 20 cents per picul.
Kachidate Maru—Japanese steamer, 2,093 tons, hence to Kobe and Yokohama, private terms.
Amigo—German steamer, 822 tons, monthly, 3 months, \$3,600.
Clara—German steamer, 684 tons, monthly, 2/2 months, \$3,600.

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

For LONDON.—Formosa (str.), Borneo (str.), Nerite (str.), Prometheus (str.).
For MARSEILLES.—Maria Rickmers (str.), Salasia (str.).
For BREMEN.—Sachsen (s.r.).
For VICTORIA.—Braemar (str.).
For SAN FRANCISCO.—City of Peking (str.), Socotra (str.), Sulej (str.).
For VANCOUVER.—Dorie (str.).
For NEW YORK.—Manuel Llaguno, Charles E.

Moody, Strathnevis (str.), Paul Revere. Glamorgan-shire (str.).

For PORTLAND—Monmouthshire (str.).

For BALTIMORE—Isaac Reed.

For AUSTRALIA—Chingtu (str.).

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST

MAIL.

HONGKONG.

ARRIVALS.

- August—
5, Hailoong, British str., from Tamsui.
5, Namoa, British str., from Coast Ports.
5, Foochow, British str., from Hoihow.
5, Devawongse, British str., from Bangkok.
5, Kwanglee, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
5, Nestor, British str., from Liverpool.
5, Tailee, German str., from Hongay.
6, Rosetta, British str., from Bombay.
6, Kong Beng, British str., from Bangkok.
6, Hanoi, French str., from Haiphong.
6, Wongkoi, British str., from Bangkok.
6, Toyohashi Maru, Jap. str., from Moji.
6, Marq. Bacquehem, Aust. str., from Kobe.
6, Shanghai, British str., from London.
7, Kachidate Maru, Jap. str., from K'notzu.
7, Taisang, British str., from Canton.
7, Taicheong, German str., from Aroe Bay.
7, City of Peking, Amr. str., from S. F. cisco.
7, Thales, British str., from Taiwanfoo.
7, Eliza, Rickmers, Ger. str., from Hamburg.
7, Brunhilde, German str., from N'chwang.
7, Airlie, British str., from Sydney.
7, Bengloe, British str., from Amoy.
7, Cheangchew, British str., from Straits.
7, Orestes, British str., from Shanghai.
7, Sulberg, German str., from Moji.
8, Irene, British str., from Canton.
8, Taksang, British str., from Wuhu.
8, Chingping, Chinese str., from Tientsin.
8, Wingsang, British str., from Shanghai.
8, Tamsui, British str., from Wuhu.
8, Clara, German str., from Iloilo.
8, Jacob Christensen, Norw. str., from Iloilo.
8, Tailee, German str., from Canton.
9, Amara, British str., from Moji.
9, Ask, Danish str., from Pakhoi.
9, Benlarig, British str., from Hongay.
9, Bellona, German str., from Kobe.
9, Germania, German str., from Singapore.
9, Glenavon, British str., from London.
9, Kwanglee, Chinese str., from Canton.
9, Namoa, British str., from Swatow.
9, Satsuma Maru, Jap. str., from Shanghai.
9, Recorder, British str., from a cruise.
9, Humber, British storeship, from Y'hama.
10, Federation, British str., from Amoy.
10, Verona, British str., from Yokohama.
10, Marie Rickmers, German str., from S'hai.
11, Kutsang, British str., from Calcutta.
11, Alala, German str., from Hamburg.
11, Mirzapore, British str., from Shanghai.
11, Lyderhorn, Norw. str., from Singapore.
11, Strathnevis, British str., from Amoy.
11, Tritos, German str., from Saigon.
11, Flintshire, British str., from London.
11, Formosa, British str., from Tamsui.
11, Medusa, Austrian str., from Trieste.
11, Brunhilde, German str., from Canton.
11, Independent, German str., from N'chwang.
11, Siam, British str., from Iloilo.
11, Sishan, British str., from Koh-si-chang.
12, Kweiyang, British str., from Canton.
12, Hong Leong, British str., from Straits.
12, Salterod, Norw. bark, from Albany.
12, Crown of Arragon, Brit. str., from F'chow.
12, Wingsang, British str., from Canton.
12, Ingraban, German str., from Singapore.

DEPARTURES.

- August—
5, Ernest Simons, French str., for Europe.
5, China, German str., for Saigon.
5, Haitan, British str., for Swatow.
5, Lysemoon, German str., for Shanghai.
6, Tailee, German str., for Canton.
6, Irene, British str., for Canton.
6, Savona, British ship, for Manila.
6, Osborne, British str., for Singapore.
6, Haitan, British str., for Swatow.
6, Foochow, British str., for Shanghai.
6, Wuhu, British str., for Saigon.
6, Keongwai, British str., for Bangkok.
6, Kwanglee, Chinese str., for Canton.
6, Paoting, British str., for Shanghai.
6, Fushun, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
6, Rosetta, British str., for Shanghai.
6, Taiyuan, British str., for Yokohama.
7, Triumph, German str., for Hoihow.

- 7, Frigga, German str., for Yokohama.
7, Hailoong, British str., for Amoy.
7, Hongkong, French str., for Haiphong.
7, P. C. Klao, British str., for Bangkok.
7, Ariake Maru, Jap. str., for Kutchinotzu.
7, Namoa, British str., for Swatow.
7, Nestor, British str., for Shanghai.
7, Sunda, British str., for London.
7, Tetartos, German str., for Singapore.
8, Nanshan, British str., for Nagasaki.
8, Hupeh, British str., for Amoy.
8, Normandie, Norw. str., for K'notzu.
8, Brunhilde, German str., for Canton.
8, Hanoi, French str., for Haiphong.
8, Kweiyang, British str., for Canton.
8, M. Bacquehem, Austrian str., for Trieste.
8, Memnon, British str., for Kudat.
8, Nanchang, British str., for Tientsin.
8, Orestes, British str., for London.
9, Chingping, Chinese str., for Canton.
9, Gaelic, British str., for San Francisco.
9, Taksang, British str., for Canton.
9, Tamsui, British str., for Canton.
9, Wingsang, British str., for Canton.
10, Tailee, German str., for Hongay.
10, Thales, British str., for Swatow.
10, Shanghai, British str., for Shanghai.
10, Sabine Rickmers, German str., for Amoy.
10, Cheangchew, British str., for Swatow.
10, P. C. C. Klao, British str., for Bangkok.
10, Evandale, British str., for K'notzu.
11, Nord, Norwegian str., for Swatow.
11, Airlie, British str., for Shanghai.
11, Bengloe, British str., for London.
11, Benlarig, British str., for Wuhu.
11, Brindisi, British str., for London.
11, Elizabeth Rickmers, Ger. str., for S'hai.
11, Irene, British str., for Shanghai.
11, Taisang, British str., for Shanghai.
12, Ask, Danish str., for Hoihow.
12, Independent, German str., for Canton.
12, Lyderhorn, Norw. str., for Kutchinotzu.
12, Amara, British str., for Canton.
12, Empress of China, Brit. str., for V'couver.
12, Glenavon, British str., for Shanghai.
12, Glenorchy, British str., for Moji.
12, Namoa, British str., for Coast Ports.
12, Shantung, British str., for Saigon.
12, Bellona, German str., for Hamburg.
12, Lightning, British str., for Calcutta.
12, Machew, British str., for Bangkok.
12, Strathnevis, British str., for Singapore.

PASSENGER LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per *Saghalien*, str., from Marseilles for Yokohama—Prince Fushimi, Lieut.-Col. Ouyehara, Mr. S. Assada, Comte. Hishamatsu, Vic. Kiyo Oka, Marq. Tokugawa, M. Clarot, Messrs. K. Nirayama, G. Goto, T. Iway, Tohiaka, and Fujita. For Shanghai—Mr. and Mrs. Appey, Mr. and Mrs. Lugden, Messrs. Ta, Peterson, E. Galburn, Luigi Borghi, Miss A. Ginsberger, Messrs. Shie, Che, Hou, Cecile Pau, Li, and Tchang. From Singapore for Hongkong—Capt. H. Laughorne, Messrs. Harper and Ong Geok Tee, Mr. and Mrs. Lon Chon Choy, Mr. Lee Ken Sang, Mr. Okasaki, and Mrs. Ochitsu. From Singapore for Shanghai—Messrs. Nikimato, Reutens, and Okasa, Mr., Mrs., and Miss Grunberg. From Saigon—Mr. Roque. From Singapore for Kobe—Messrs. Jamada and Josuphson. For Yokohama—Mrs. Wakabaja. From Saigon for Yokohama—Messrs. Sellier and Charpentier.

Per *Empress of China*, str., from Vancouver—Mr. W. B. Decker, Mrs. A. P. Bodes, Mrs. H. A. McLeod, Miss Stonie McLeod, Miss Ethel McLeod, Miss Effie Tucker, Messrs. Wm. Harrison and Chas. E. Richardson. From Kobe—Mrs. G. K. Moore, Messrs. F. W. Bird and W. G. Bird, Surgeon-Major S. Westcott, Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Thomas, Miss Freda Thomas, From Nagasaki—Mr. B. Powell, Mrs. J. B. Powell and infant, Messrs. Chan Tze Kai, Lin, and Tan Kee Cheong, Miss E. Caldwell, Miss Hazeland, Mr. P. W. T. Rop.

Per *Ernest Simons*, str., for Hongkong from Yokohama—Mr. J. M. Costa. From Kobe—Messrs. Consunji and Ng Ken Sum. From Shanghai—Messrs. J. Figueiredo, Mathiesen, Poletti, S. Blaukensteiner, and Van de Schmit, and Mrs. Tayler. For Saigon from Shanghai—Mr. Bobaharo. From Yokohama—Mr. and Mrs. Raud and 2 children. For Singapore from Shanghai—Mr. and Mrs. Lewis and 2 children. From Kobe—Capt. Casson, Mrs. Koyama and

infant, Miss Hori, Messrs. Takake, Takara, Hiroze, Mori, Terashta, and Hama. For Colombo from Yokohama—Miss Howes. For Port Said from Shanghai—Mrs. Haas. For Marseilles—Messrs. Delchwalerie, Aldis, Jas. Macdougall, Stephan, Manger, Dautremer, Gumpel, Lervance, Cœr Yves, Mr. and Mrs. Delmege. For Marseilles from Yokohama—Mr. and Mrs. Sato and infant, Messrs. Strahler, Shozo, and Ogavra, Mr. and Mrs. Such and infant.

Per *Sunda*, str., from Yokohama for London—Master A. Clark. From Shanghai—Mr. Fenwick.

Per *Rosetta*, str., from Bombay for Hongkong—Miss R. O. Watling. From London—Lieut. J. C. T. Dormer, Rev. P. H. Jones. From Singapore—Miss G. L. Gindier. From London for Yokohama—Messrs. Jackson and H. Lowe. From Singapore—Messrs. Teer and A. G. Wise. From London for Shanghai—Messrs. L. Kay and T. C. Forbes.

Per *Shanghai*, str., from London for Shanghai—Mr. and Mrs. Rearton. For Hongkong—Mr. E. F. Hill and 194 Chinese.

Per *City of Peking*, str., from San Francisco, &c.—Hon. Audrey Coote.

Per *Airlie*, str., from Sydney, &c.—Messrs. James Taylor and Wm. Barron.

Per *Wingsang*, str., from Shanghai, &c.—Mr. Wenyon.

Per *Verona*, str., for Hongkong from Yokohama—Mrs. Robinson and child; Mr. T. Gowland, Lieut. Rowcroft, Mr. Tung Ping. From Nagasaki—Mrs. Hanada, Miss Ohsashi, Mr. Keh Tong. From Yokohama for Port Said—Mr. Alex. Flinsch.

Per *Kutsang*, str., from Calcutta &c.—Mr. Justice Blair and Mrs. Blair, and 369 Chinese.

Per *Marie Rickmers*, str., from Shanghai—Mr. R. Rickmers.

Per *Mirzapore*, str., from Shanghai for Hongkong—Messrs. J. J. Francis, Nao Nabehura, Chan Oi Tong, C. S. Taylor, Kaw and infant, and R. Mouye. For Brindisi—Signora Monti, Mrs. Von Holten, Miss Monti. For London—Messrs. E. W. Monkhouse and W. S. Simpson.

Per *Flintshire*, str., from London, &c.—Messrs. Holmes, Wilson, and Barnaby.

DEPARTED.

Per *Saghalien*, str., for Shanghai from Hongkong—Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Mott, Mrs. N. J. Robinson, Master and Miss Robinson, Messrs. C. F. Mendham, T. Macdonald, D. Ritchie, and Aldridge. From Marseilles—Mr. and Mrs. Appey, Mr. and Mrs. Lugden and child, Messrs. Ta, Peterson, E. Galburn, Luigi Borghi, Mrs. Ginsberger, Messrs. Shie, Che, Hou, Miss Cecile Pau, Messrs. Li and Tchang. From Singapore—Messrs. Nikimato, Reutens, Okasa, Mr., Mrs., and Miss Grunberg. From Saigon—Lieut. Roque. For Yokohama from Hongkong—Mrs. M. Miller, Miss E. Montgomery, Miss K. Schaeffer, Messrs. D. E. Brown and Goddard. From Marseilles—Prince Fushimi, Lieut.-Col. Ouyehara, Mr. S. Assada, Count Hishamatsu, Viscount Kiyo Oka, Marquis Tokugawa, Mr. Clarot, Messrs. K. Nirayama, G. Goto, T. Iway, Tohiaka, and Fujita. From Singapore—Messrs. Wakabaja and Sellier. From Saigon—Mr. Charpentier. For Kobe from Singapore—Mr. Jamado and Mr. Josuphson.

Per *Ernest Simons*, str., from Hongkong for Saigon—Mrs. M. Poulain, and Mr. M. T. Poulain. For Singapore—Mrs. Bowes, Messrs. Avander Schuyt, T. Ephraums, J. Duncan, and Luna. For Colombo—Mr. A. Maragoni. For Bombay—Mr. P. H. T. Ross. For Marseilles—Madame Descours, Messrs. J. A. Lorres and Flint.

Per *Hongkong*, str., for Pakhoi—Dr. Dean. For Haiphong—Rev. Aguesse, Mr. A. Buyers.

Per *Rosetta*, str., for Shanghai from Hongkong—Mr. J. W. Powell and child, Messrs. W. Powell, F. V. Vandenberg, and J. S. Bruce. From London—Messrs. J. L. Kay and S. C. Forbes.

Per *Hanoi*, str., for Haiphong—Rev. Bodinier.

Per *Gaelic*, str., for Nagasaki—Messrs. M. Obrembsky, Blake, H. Hangan, and Lister. For Kobe—Lieut. and Mrs. Mathews. For Yokohama—Dr. and Mrs. G. Bateson Wright, Major Halton, and Mr. Chas. Lichtenfelder. For San Francisco—Miss Belle Smith, Miss M. Hennessey, Messrs. A. Chamberlain and C. H. Mitchell. For London—Dr. and Mrs. Lowson.